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MR. DESMOND BRANNIGAN.
The Young Judge in August Strindberg's "The Link." Sunday evening, 8.30, Clavier Hall.

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Managing-Director.
Canterbury Theatre of Varieties, London, S.E.

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MR. J. V. BRYANT.
John Rutherford in "Rutherford and Son."
Little Theatre, New York.

MR. W. J. BUTLER.
Baroudi, in "Bella Donna."
Jan. 27, Grand T., Accrington.

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"Silver Creek" Co.
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MR. JOHN CECIL. Sir Timothy Farrar, "Hindle Wakes" (No. 1). 100th Performance. Jan. 27, T.R., Norwich. Feb. 3, O.H., Stockport.

MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER, His Majesty's T. MISS VIOLET CHAMIER, Dis., term. of American Tour. 15, Gordondale-rd., Wimbledon Pk.

MR. S. J. CHAPMAN. The Ogre and A.S.M., Mr. Milton Bode's "Jack and the Beanstalk." This, Norwich. Next, Northampton.

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The Man U Know.
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MR. J. W. CORDINER.
Jan. 27,
Opera House, Treherbert.

MR. ERNEST G. COVE.
The Secretary, "Little Miss Llewelyn." Scored a triumph.—"Westminster Gazette." Vaudeville Theatre, Strand.

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All coms., V. C., Managers' Club, W.C.

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All coms., 87, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

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General Manager,
Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.

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Jan. 27,
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Re-engaged Xmas Tour for Capt. Clinton in "Find the Woman" (from the Garrick T.). Retained Spring Tour for Capt. West in "Ready Money" (from the New T.). Jan. 27, Opera House, Cheltenham.

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Jan. 27, Empire, Liverpool.

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A MANAGER'S PROTEST.

Mr. W. C. Horner, the managing-director of the Victoria Theatre and the new Empire Music Hall, Burnley, has made a protest against rowdyism in theatres. This week the Italian Grand Opera Co., one of the best known operatic combinations in the country, is at the Empire, and at the first house on Monday night they performed "Cavalleria Rusticana." For a short space of time after the curtain rises on this opera the stage is deserted while the introductory music is being played. The "gods" at this stage began to show impatience, shuffling about, whistling, and laughing. The disorder was sharply repressed by the music hall staff, but broke out again, and from thence onward, despite repeated attempts to stop the disorder, the opera company had to contend at intervals against the ill-manners of a section of the gallery occupants who, although all other parts of the house were enjoying the opera, persisted in interrupting by "cat calls," laughter, exclamations, and shuffling about. The opera proceeded to its close, however, and was loudly applauded.

As soon as the curtain had fallen, Mr. Horner came to the front of the stage and, addressing the gallery occupants, said that was the first time the opera company had been insulted, although they had appeared several times in Burnley and district. Conduct such as had been exhibited in the gallery that night must be repressed. For the rest of the night the gallery would be closed; for the remainder of the week the price of admission to the gallery would be fourpence, the same as the pit, and in future it would be raised to threepence. He was determined that patrons of the stalls, circle, and pit should have comfort. Mr. Horner's protest and declaration as to future action were loudly cheered by those in the other parts of the house.

Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne and Miss Beryl Hamilton have secured the rights of Monckton Hoffe's comedy, "Improper Peter," from Mr. Arthur Bourchier, together with the two original yacht scenes. They have booked a tour starting at Ipswich on Feb. 10, and running right through till the late autumn of this year, visiting all the principal towns in the provinces. Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee will play Peter, Miss Winifred Gardner will be Flora Everest, and Mr. Ned Llewelyn Charlie Stancombe. Mr. Thorpe-Mayne himself will appear in Mr. Fred Kerr's part, and Miss Beryl Hamilton will be the "Periwinkle." Miss Hamilton is well known to provincial audiences by her performances, amongst others, as Mercia in Mr. William Greet's "Sign of the Cross" company, and later as Sousa in "Arsène Lupin" with Mr. Percy Hutchison.

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AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

SYDNEY, Dec. 17.—This week's attraction has been the production at the Criterion Theatre of "Milestones," a domestic play by Messrs. Arnold Bennett and Knoblauch. Mr. Julius Knight was gladly received on his return from the Old Country, and his acting was highly appreciated in his portrayal of Rhead, the middle-aged, pompous, and conceited new baronet. Miss Grace Noble gave a finished delineation of Gertrude, and her pathos was admirable. Miss Irene Browne played Emily with genuine heart-breaking sobs; and Mr. Herbert Ford makes Preece particularly good in the third act. Mr. Arthur Greenaway, always clever, was particularly so as Sam Sibley both as a business partner and suburban husband. Miss Emmie Temple as honest-hearted Nancy gave us a picture of delightful fidelity. Mr. Martin Lewis, a newcomer, is capital as Lord Monkhurst, full of self-assurance. Mr. Leslie Victor makes the lisping dandy, Ned Pym, eccentrically humorous; and Miss Maggie Knight, an old favourite, portrays the kind, motherly Mrs. Rhead amiably. At curtain call Mr. Julius Knight made the expected speech, expressing pleasure at the appreciation of the play by Sydneyites.

The other theatres and picture shows are all filled at every performance, and as the Christmas influx of country people will be unusually large this year, every show will evoke a full treasury.

MELBOURNE, Dec. 17.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Sole Proprietors, George Marlow, Ltd.—"Her Forbidden Marriage" was produced here for the first time on Saturday night, and served to draw a full house. Mr. Hugh Buckler made a fine, manly hero, and was ably supported by Miss Violet Paget as the heroine. Miss Jennie Pollock as the bad lady Lucretia had a part which suited her admirably. Mr. Hilliard Vox made a capital villain. Mr. P. V. Scully as Sir George Lancaster was seen to advantage; Miss Ina Alston as the Mother Superior did all that was required of her. The comic relief was in the hands of Mr. D'Arcy Kelway and Miss Elwyn Harvey, the latter making a very pretty Patty Lovejoy. Mr. Frank Reis, who made a brief appearance as an old rustic with a craving for tobacco, deserves a word of praise. The piece was admirably dressed and mounted throughout.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—The musical play, "Nightbirds," has retained its popularity, and on Saturday evening there was a full house. The choruses and songs were much appreciated, and the humorous situations evoked the heartiest laughter.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.—On Saturday evening the charming comedy, "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," was repeated before a very large house. Mr. Harry Clarke, Mr. Manning, Miss Margaret Dale-Owen, character comedy actress, and Miss Marian Dunn are the stays of the cast. The comedy will be repeated till next Thursday, after which "Miss Hook of Holland" will be revived.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. G. H. Barnes.—"The Prince and the Beggar Maid" was revived on Saturday evening for a short season. Mr. Roy Redgrave repeated his exceedingly clever impersonation of Prince Michael, while Miss Eugenie Duggan won all hearts with her dainty rendering of the part of the Princess Monica. The rest of the company filled their various rôles with entire satisfaction. The play throughout was mounted on a most lavish scale.

RICKARDS' OPERA HOUSE.—Personal Direction, Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh; Business-Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—The Lancaster Opera company made their first appearance here on Saturday evening, and scored an instantaneous success. "The Blue Danube Waltz," "A winter song," the sextette from "Lucia di Lammermoor," and a rollicking Neapolitan ballad were rendered in charming style. The audience was not slow to recognise the worth of the entertainment, and warm applause marked the termination of each number. The remainder of the programme was for the most part of excellent quality. Signor Alberto Marini was in fine voice. Claire Romaine's male impersonations were so acceptable that she was compelled to linger long on the stage. My Fancy maintained her reputation by executing Scotch reels and sand jigs in perfect time; Mlle. Margo again mystified by pouring all sorts of liquors from a glass jug; Miss Minnie Kauffmann performed clever bicycle tricks; Welch and Carbasse gave a pleasing sketch; while old favourites like Will Whitburn, Fred Bluett, Vaude and Verne, Crawford and Howard, Borneo Gardiner, and the Rallis and Willson Trio all figured on the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Direction, Mr. Ben J. Fuller; Business-Manager, Mr. Tom Brennan.—Les Bow, trick cyclists and comedians, made their first appearance on Saturday evening before a large audience; Carl Merlyn also appeared for the first time in a number of mystifying illusions; the Bartz Trio, a combination of acrobats, opened a season which is only to last one week; while King and Millard, the Two Driscolls, Herbert Clifton, and other artistes rendered acceptable items.

The Adam Smith Hall, together with the committee rooms and appurtenances, except the refreshment bar, is to let for the week from Dec. 29, 1913, to Jan. 3, 1914. Tenders stating the amount of rent offered, to be lodged with the Town Clerk, Kirkcaldy, by Feb. 15.

At the Alexandra Palace on Saturday last, a successful concert was given under the auspices of the Orpheus Social Circle, the proceeds being handed to the local hospital. Some twenty artistes contributed to a very fine programme. Whilst all were successful, special mention is due to Mrs. Reginald Prince, whose powerful contralto voice won a well-deserved encore; Mr. Herbert Defrane, an impressionist of exceptional ability; Miss Jessie Mountjoy, in songs at the piano; and that clever child entertainer, Little Elsie Prince, who created a furore. The whole affair reflected great credit upon the hon. sec., Mr. Bernard Silverton.

We regret to announce the death on the 10th inst. of Mr. Arthur Manger, the well-known handbell soloist. He was a member and steward of the Concert Artistes' Benevolent Association, also a member of the Lyric Lodge, both of which Institutions sent wreaths, and at the funeral on Monday last at Brockley were represented by Mr. Dick Lloyd and Mr. Herbert Townsend (C.A.B.A.), and the Worshipful Master of the Lyric Lodge, Bro. G. H. E. Goodman, and the secretary, Bro. T. F. Noakes.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

ABERAVON—PORT TALBOT.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. David Jones; Manager, Mr. Cass Renso. — Mr. Marcus Draper's company in "The Eternal City" and "The Christian." Cast includes: Messrs. Marcus Draper, R. Campbell Fletcher, Edward Watson, Albert H. Clarke, Alec Forbes, Chas. Langton, E. Hutteroth, Norman E. Purnell, Chas. Harris, J. E. Barmworth, Sam Barnes, John Mannering, H. H. Hudson, J. Harvey. Master Freddie Pym, Misses Barbara Wallace, Ivy May Clarke, Nellie Murray, Mary Bronton, Grace Stamper, Dorothy Hanson, May Harris, and Winifred Peters.

VINT'S PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. William Mitchell.—Morton and Elliott, paper manipulators, vocalists, etc.; George Harvard and company in comedy playlet, "The Fairy's Wand"; and pictures.

TAIBACH PICTURE PALACE. — Proprietors, W. Davies and Co.; Manager, Mr. W. Davies.—Welsh Murray Trio, vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Musical-Director, Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week (once nightly): The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company present: Monday, "Carmen"; Tuesday, "Lohengrin"; Wednesday, "Il Trovatore"; Thursday, "Mefistofele"; Friday, "The Magic Flute"; Saturday matinée, "Tannhäuser"; Saturday evening, "Mignon." The company includes: E. C. Hedmondt, Arthur Winckworth, Frederick Clendon, Charles Neville, Leslie Austin, William O'Connor, Miriam Licette, Elizabeth Burgess, Jean Douglas Wilson, Winifred Geverding, Gladys Deane, Janet Hemsley, Signe Becker, Dorothy Lawson Tayler, Beatrice Miranda. Next week: Mr. Martin Harvey, in his repertoire.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors, The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): Caryl Wilbur and company in "61, Prospect-street"; R. Wallus, ventriloquist; Les Fansettes, dancers; Three Wegals, comedy acrobats; Francini Ollams and Page, acrobats, equilibrists and jugglers; Four de Kolzas, illusionists; Peter Melvin, Scotch baritone; Jean Schwiller ('cellist) and company, including Miss Julie Dolaro; pictures.

PALACE.—Lessees, the Tivoli, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Lawson Clark; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry Henderson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry M'Kelvie's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard." The company includes: Mr. Peter Bermingham, Miss Maggie Fraser, Miss Edie Haley, the Four Drummer Girls, Misses Retta Halkett, Renee Walton, Violet Fraser, Bessie Foley, Messrs. J. Randle Wilson, Sam Lavelle, Chas. Jackson, J. S. Stephens, Jack Lavelle, and Alf de Vere. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; Musical-Director, Mr. F. Drake.—This week: Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and company, in "Sins of the Rich" and "Sapho." The company includes: Edwin Keene, John Johnston, Philip Layton, Ralph Jessel, W. H. D. Brown, Ernest R. Abbott, Isabel Singleton, Winifred Rutland, Annie Morgan, Mattie Everett, Cecile Rene, E. Crowther, and Ada Abbott. Next week: "The Babes in the Wood."

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. A. Tilney and Sons; Manager, Mr. E. Pryce.—This week (twice nightly): The Great Solories; Zena Clare; Amor and Roma; Syd Brendon; Moran and Tingley; and pictures.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Wilson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is the attraction. On the opening night a most praiseworthy performance of "If I Were King" was given. All the artistes acquitted themselves well. Mr. Henry Herbert's representation of the Grand Constable was marked by much power and restraint, and his deep voice could be distinctly heard in every part of the theatre. The performance will be repeated on Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday. "The Comedy of Errors" is billed for Thursday, and "Othello" for Friday. The company includes: Messrs. John Cairns, Horace Braham, C. Warburton, Miss P. Laurence, Miss Evelyn Venderzee, Miss B. Muller, Miss Yardsley, Miss P. T. Daniels, Miss Gladys Venderzee, Mr. E. P. Woodman, Mr. D. Yarrow, Mr. R. Rathbone, Mr. A. Leigh, Mr. B. Osborne, Mr. S. B. Bickermore, and Mr. F. Freeman.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: The Great Darracq, in his sensational act, "Whizzing the Wheel in a Motor Car"; Jack Walsh, comedian; Francis O'Flynn, banjoist; Lack and Ford, comedy acrobats; Arthur Warren, singing collier; Fisher and Dog, in novelty act; Darnell and company in "The Magic Shop"; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. William Wilson; Manager, Mr. Harold Wilson. — This week: Mr. George Thornton's orchestra; selections on the gramaphone; and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; General-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Willats.—"Dick Whittington," a Christmas pantomime, is being presented by Dottridge and Longden at the Theatre Royal this week, the chief rôles being taken by the following:—Misses Hetty Zillwood (Dick Whittington), Una Ellis (Princess of Morocco), Enid Hamilton (Peg), Gertie Warwick (Jack o' Bow), Edith Isabelle (Nell o' the Mall), Kittie Trewhitt (Lord Algernon Fitz-Bertie), and Minnie Muir (Alice Fitzwarren); Messrs. James Rallis (Tom, the cat), Arthur Holland (Alderman Fitzwarren), Tom Drew (Jack), Albert Williams (Mrs. Desiccated Edwards), Doyle and Gibson (Jack Bowline and Joe Barnacle), Frank Melville (Emperor of Morocco), and E. C. Wilkins (King of the Rats). Specialities by the Waldorf Troupe. Next week: Wentworth Croke's pantomime, "Cinderella."

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Will May.—An all-star programme is attracting crowded houses at Aldershot's new pleasure rendezvous this week. The high-class programme includes: Sir Rider Haggard's "Jess," a thrilling story of the South African War, in three parts; "The Sleeping Beauty," featuring Miss Ivy Close; "Builders of Empire," a fine Indian romance; "The fatal pact," a fascinating gambling subject; "Willie's dog," a most amusing comic, and the Pathé Gazette, with all the news in pictures. An equally attractive programme is promised for next week.

ARBROATH.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Pavilion Co., Ltd. — Miss Lois du Cane presents "For His King and the Girl He Loved." The company includes: Mr. George Silver, Mr. Frank Carfield, Mr. Ernest W. Parr, Mr. Maurice Jones, Mr. Leonard Grey, Mr. Edward Lockstone, Mr. Allan Young, Mr. C. Whiteman, Miss Lois du Cane, Miss Agnes Anderson, Miss Luna Lisle. Touring-Manager, Mr. Edward Lockstone. Next week: "For Mother's Sake."

OLYMPIA.—Manager, Mr. Graham Brown.—This week: Gulliver and the doll with the laugh, comedy ventriloquial act; J. W. Bowie, the ever-popular Scottish tenor; Les Zelovas, continental acrobats; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Percival; Musical-Directress, Miss Ethel Leslie.—This week (twice nightly): Lillette and Co.; Sandy Powell; Four Eldons, classical song and dance scena; Nellie Dean, comedienne; Nava, musical comedian; the Four Kels. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

MINERS' THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Clegg.—This week (twice nightly): Four Arconis, comedians and acrobats; Knight and Morne; pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday, 2.

BUFFALO PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb. — This week (twice nightly): The Spissell Bros. and company; Two Nicolos, magic and burlesque artistes; Lawrence Bros., singers and dancers. Picture matinée, Saturday, 2.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Revill, jun.; Musical-Director, Mr. W. H. Halton.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Leslie Moreton and Mr. Guyton Heath present "Our Miss Gibbs." The company includes: Mr. Sinclair Holden, Mr. Collins Rolfe, Mr. Wilfred Norman, Mr. Benson North, Mr. Leslie Winter, Mr. Noel Spencer, Mr. W. Forbes, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. L. Edwards, Mr. Chris. Wren, Miss Kitty Hyde, Miss Mona Glynn, Miss Aubrey Ashton, Miss Beatrice St. Vincent, Miss Gladys Glynn, Miss Dolly Townsend, Miss Nan Pearson, Miss Carmen Woods, Miss Dolly Stacey, Miss Ida Lorraine, Miss S. Cuthbert, Miss May Casson, Miss Violet Tremaine, Miss Florence Ray. Touring-Manager, Mr. J. Pelham Rayner. Next week: "Brewster's Millions."

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. John Boyle; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): Gar Kiddie presents "Mother Goose." The company includes: Anna Rutland, Bert D'Arcy, James Mooney, Arthur Carlton, Blanche Marion, Bert Bex, Brenda White, Karr and Kooney, Dorothy Dare, Frank Langford, Harry Hughes, Bella Bolton, Ethel Verrette, Mary Williams, Rose Vincent, Clarie Brooke, Constance Salsbury, Winnie Lloyd, Lillie Steurt, Edith Rankin, Madge Roy, Gerty Graham, Hilda Myers, Nellie Parker, Rose Hall. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

NEW PAVILION PICTURES. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Downes; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week: The Ap-Thomas Trio; Gertie, Millie, and Edie, in musical speciality, introducing the harp, guitar, concertina, cornet, etc.; and pictures. Friday night's (second house) amateur prize competition for singing Mill Girls. Twice nightly performances, 6.40 and 9. Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, 2.30.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Wilfrid Bryan.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Tom Casey, singing newsboy and champion whistler; Mr. Albert Harrison, parody vocalist; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King; Musical-Conductor, Mr. Rowland Allen.—This week (twice nightly): the Sable Three and Searle, comedy entertainers and dancers; Mr. Harry Lawson, comedian; Miss Edith Thompson, vocalist and dancer; the Scarlet Band; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BACUP.

COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Walters.—Mr. William McLaren presents his spectacular production, Wilson Barrett's "Claudian." Cast includes the following: Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida, Mr. W. McLaren as Claudian.

PUBLIC HALL.—Lessee, Messrs. Glenville and Osmond; Manager, Mr. J. Clay. — Lindon and McCreye, comedy artistes; and pictures.

BANGOR.

NEW COUNTY THEATRE.—Sole-Proprietor, Mr. James Hare; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. W. Smith-Neill; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Bates.—This week (matinées, Wednesday and Saturday): Mr. and Mrs. John Walters present their superb Christmas pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company consists of: Miss Dorothy Veitch, Miss Freda Plowden, Miss Nell Rene, Miss Elsie Kedwards, Miss Kittie Liske, Miss Esme Esme, Miss Connie Miller, Miss Doris Somerset, the Marius Low Dancing Girls, the Brothers Astor, Baby Beaty, Mr. Harry Murr, Mr. Harry Rousby, Mr. Walter Lennard, the Stevanos, Mr. Edwin Ludlow, Mr. Tom Hulme, Mr. Dan Belmore, Mr. Fred. Cedric, Miss Sylvia Seville, Mr. Billy Sands, Mr. Dan Best, Miss Dorothy Ashby, Miss Jessie Hardacre. Musical-Director (for Mr. and Mrs. Walters), Mr. Harry Jacobs; Stage-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby; Scenic-Artist, Mr. F. A. Jones.

ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME. — Proprietor, Mr. John Codman; Manager, Mr. W. Lea.—Special turn this week: Will Tissington's Popular Poppies in their unique entertainment; and pictures.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): G. Carlton Wallace's company in "The Apple of Eden." Touring-Manager, Mr. Richard A. Greene. The company includes: Mr. J. G. Graham, Mr. Percy Ballard, Mr. Richard A. Greene, Mr. Charlton Morton, Mr. W. S. Stevenson, Mr. Henry Chalmers, Mr. Robert Merrick, Mr. Fred C. Roper, Mr. A. E. W. Sandbach, Mr. P. G. Marlar, Miss Doris Gilham, Miss Evelyn Robson, Miss Gwendoline Verschoyle, and Miss Iris Trevarthen.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Carrick.—Mr. G. Black's pantomime "Cinderella," is this week occupying the boards here. Miss May Gibson as Cinderella is vivacious and pleasing, and Miss Kitty Upton as Prince Roderick is also good.

BARNSTAPLE.

PICTUREDROME.—Proprietors, The Bridge Trustees; Lessees, Messrs. W. J. Cooke and Harry Tresise.—This week: Oswald Bemand, conjurer and card manipulator, with doves and pigeons; Fred Stacey, a clever comedian; and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Wm. Pardoe presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss May Birkett, Miss Jean Herries, Miss A. Herries, Miss Erica Lerine, Miss Amy Harrison, Miss Dunbar, Miss Cissy Stuart, Miss May Florence, Miss Maisie Munroe, Miss Jessy Morton, Miss Madge Lloyd, Miss Daisy Delmar, Miss Rosa Hazlewood, Miss Nelly Darnell, Miss Florence Brittle, Miss Mona Desmond, Mr. F. Hewett, and Miss Laura Hazlewood, Mr. Tom Griffitt, Miss Nellie Rose, Miss Lottie Holland, Miss Mayme Savoy, Miss Kearns, Mr. Karl Edwards, Messrs. Barnard and Ru Allen, Mr. Geo. Hyam, Sisters D'Estrail, Messrs. Roylatt and Mack, Messrs. Dunbar and Vasey. Touring-Manager, Mr. W. Pardoe. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: F. R. Benson Shakespearean Co.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Newham; Musical-Director, Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): Fregolia in her protean sketches; Jack Roscoe, comedian; Renaud Lockwood and company in comedy sketch; the Rangers, comedy cyclists; Selwin and Willows, athletes; J. A. Wilson and his dog; Harry List, bass singer; Letines, comedy acrobats.

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Tours, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: Mr. William Greet's company in "The Sign of the Cross." The company includes: Messrs. H. St. Barbe West, Chas. Yorke, Frank Wood, J. Weatherall, Geo. W. Hulme, Walter Flett, Phil Ellis, Jno. Newman, H. A. Jones, Martin Palmer, Tom Weatherall, E. G. Filbey, R. Chapman, H. Roose, Chas. Pennett, Misses Madge Monte, Dorothy Lart, Doris Rene, Florence Bond, Mary Newcombe, Madeline Gordon, Frances Midgley, Dorothy Northam, Muriel Noble, Lily Warde, Julia Clarke, Betty Beaumise, Barbara Thorne, Grace Courtin, and Frances Ives.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Samson.—This week: Sunshine and Shadow, comedy acrobats; Fred Butt, versatile comedian; Ernest Montefiore and company, in "The Little Colonel"; and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long. — Mr. George Edwardes' company in "The Count of Luxembourg" is paying a return visit here this week. Mr. Mark Lester scores a big success as Brissard, and is well supported by Miss Vera Sinclair (Juliette), Miss Mabel Twemlow (Angela), Mr. Willie Hartill (the Grand Duke), and Mr. Nigel Barrie (the Count), play the other leading characters satisfactorily. The special dances by Miss Gertie Anderton and Mr. Dundas Walker are loudly applauded. Mr. Ernie Woodville is the Musical-Director, and Mr. Trueman Towers the General-Manager. Next week: "The Winter's Tale."

PALACE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr. W. S. Pearce; Manager, Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—Alice Raymond and her players in "A Night in Egypt" is the big draw here this week. The remainder of the bill comprises Ford and Lang, comedians and dancers; Miss Honor Oak, rag-time comedienne; Tom Pursloe, eccentric comedian; Brizlee, flute and piccolo soloist and entertainer at the piano; John F. Traynor and company in the Western romance, "The Devil's Elbow," and pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Draycott; Musical-Director, Mr. James Heggie.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company in the drama, "An Oath of Vengeance." The company includes: Messrs. H. M. Glenville, Polson Turner, Chas. Chandler, Percy Wood Fred Wilberforce, Lance Usher, Harry Creamer, Bob Mann, William Emery, Lewis Gordon, T. Vardon, Richard Hutton, George Morgan, Misses Ethel Wensley, Dorothy Richardson, Hettie Hanson, Bettie Bowers, Violet Stirling, Gertie Lawson, and Daisy Forrest.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Notwithstanding the enormous success of Mr. Fred W. Warden's Christmas pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," the last two weeks have been announced, and the pantomime will therefore terminate on Saturday, Feb. 1. New features and new songs have been introduced by the various principals, who have all worked so loyally to make the pantomime such a gigantic success, which it undoubtedly has achieved. On Wednesday, Jan. 29, Miss Violet Lloyd (Jack) will take a well-deserved benefit, and on Friday, 31st inst., Mr. Phil Smith (Dame Trot), who is such a favourite in Belfast, will also be accorded a benefit.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction here this week is the Indian romantic play, "Queen of the Redskins," presented by Travis Green's company. In the rôle of Wahneetah Miss Hilda Shirley acted with consummate skill, and her clever impersonation reflected much credit on this able actress. Honours were also achieved by Mr. Jerrold Heather, who furnished a finished impersonation of Broncho Bill. Mr. Horace Booth acted with care and sound judgment. As the hostile Indian Chief (Great Bear) Mr. Lionel Moore was in every sense satisfactory, and other rôles were adequately sustained by Miss Amy Maitland, Miss Jessie Campbell, Miss Christine Murray, Miss Clara Oakes, and Messrs. Frank Litchfield, Ed. Maples, Sam Edwards, and Arthur C. Russell.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Managing-Director, Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—After two weeks absence only Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and company returned on Monday, and produced with éclat the evergreen Irish drama "The Shaughraun." The rôle of Conn fits Mr. Mackey like the proverbial glove, his humorous impersonation of the warm-hearted Irishman creating roars of laughter. A charming impersonation of Clara Ffolliott was submitted by Mrs. Chalmers Mackey; and the rôle of Moya was cleverly sustained by Miss Amy Manfree; Mr. Charles M. Julian (who also acts as general-manager of the company) was quite irreproachable as Captain Molyneux; and the iniquities of Harvey Duff were realistically portrayed by Mr. Frank Dalton; Mr. Dennis Mackey was excellent as Robert Ffolliott; and Mr. T. R. Nugent was Father Doolan to the life; Mr. J. P. McBride played the rôle of the detestable Corry Kinchella admirably; and other rôles were satisfactorily sustained by Miss Maude Lillian, Miss Jeanette Lyons, Miss M. Moore, Messrs. John Nevile, Jas. Healey, J. Dawson, &c.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading feature here is provided by Erard's company of Vaudevillians in a series of beautiful song-scenas, which met with an instantaneous and deserved success. Mr. Austin Rudd, the droll comedian, returns to the city, and his reception has been very gratifying, and Lawley and East appear to advantage in "A Chance Acquaintance." The Langbournes, the famous ensemble virtuosi, provide an act which is a decided feature of the programme; and also on the programme are Miss Nora Emerald, comedienne and dancer; Henri Bekker, comedy conjurer; Arthur Page, Lancashire dialect comedian; Al De Winne Duo, in a mixed-up act; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The star here is Mr. Eric Mayne, the popular actor, who, with his company, produced a dramatic episode, "Heard in Camera," which was accorded an enthusiastic reception. The musical act of the Boston Bros. is certainly replete with many novel features, and Mr. Harry Jarvis is a baritone vocalist of unqualified merit. Also billed are Hetty Halpin, dainty comedienne; Evie Darnton, comedienne and dancer; Massona, eccentric juggler; Lyons and Cullum, the versatile duo; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element is sustained by Miss Maggie Benson, "the original servant girl," and Professor Norton, a wonderful illusionist. Pictures complete.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Norris and West, character duettists and dancers; Miss Gracie Bard, comedienne; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Ferris Pounds.—This week: The Barringtons, marvellous musicians; and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Du Rocher.—Messrs. Leonard and French's company is presenting the naval drama, "The Girl of My Heart," to large and appreciative houses. The company includes: Mr. Herbert Leonard, Mr. George Arthur, Mr. J. Claxton Turner, Mr. Edward Curtis, Miss G. Hastings Walton, Miss Laura Dyson, and Miss Annie Rogers.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—Field and Smart present a clever naval and military musical speciality; the comedy duettists, "Leslie and Player," appear in "The Bookstall Boy"; the pictures include "Sister's ordeal" and "Great steel secret."

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Musical-Director, Mr. B. Srawley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Fred W. Carpenter presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Madge White, Miss Lily Belle, Miss Marie Bertini, Zoe and Bunnie, Little Mercia Jarvis, Miss Belle Hamilton, Miss Dorothy Duff, Miss May Preston, Miss Flo Redfern, Miss Gladys Winton, Miss Lily Redfern, Miss Ethel Mitchell, Miss Elsie Randall, Mr. Percy Cadwell, Mr. Archie Wallen, Mr. Arthur Wingrave, Mr. Will Owen, Messrs. Ward and Scott. Touring-Manager, Mr. Arthur Wingrave. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The House that Jack Built."

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston; Musical-Director, Mr. R. Tomlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Richard Nightingale's pantomime company in "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Dolly Ross, Miss Gladys Henderson, Miss Susie Maurer, Miss May Beaumont, Miss Frances Henderson, Miss Ruth Beaumont, Miss Lillian Devon, Miss Nellie Mascott, Mr. Jimmy Goode, Mr. Bob Stevens, Mr. Billy Tauder, Mr. Fred Preston, Messrs. Lew and Lea, Barbendo, and the Dancing Durhams. Matinées, Saturday, 2.30. Touring-Manager, Mr. Bert Delman.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): The American Rag-time Octette; Oswald Williams, English illusionist; Fred Land, comedian; Lily Dance, dancer and vocalist; the Northcotes, duettists; Gordon Stretton, coon; John and Lillian Grand, character vocalists; Six Donovans, in musical act; pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. W. Smith.—Once nightly: "Goody Two Shoes." The pantomime still continues with a capital swing, and Mr. George Robey is nightly causing crowded houses to rock with laughter with his experiences as a theatrical lodging-house keeper. Miss Nellie Wigley as principal boy and Miss Maie Ash as principal girl are adding considerably to their laurels, and Mr. Conquest gives impressions of canine humour highly amusing.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietors, Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Once nightly: "Twinkle, Little Star," with a few improvements, and the cast working in perfect harmony. "Twinkle, Little Star" is delighting large audiences. Mr. Marriott Edgar is a capital Dame, Miss Lulu Valli a charming "boy," and Miss Irene Dillon a brightly twinkling star.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Salberg; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—Once nightly: "Robinson Crusoe."

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. E. Cox.—Once nightly: "Cinderella."

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—Twice nightly: "With Edged Tools," a capital African drama, is drawing large audiences. Campbell Goldsmid is a very realistic villain, and further excellent acting is forthcoming from Mr. Harold Neville as the hero, and Mr. Murray Yorke. Miss Maud Morton-Powell acquits herself admirably in a difficult rôle.

COLISEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. James Alexander.—Twice nightly: Mr. Alexander's own company in "The Little Breadwinner." Mr. J. A. Campbell's interesting play is rendered in admirable fashion by the company. As usual, Mr. Louis Lingard gives a spirited rendering of the part of the hero, and excellent work is done by Mr. Bert Oates. The other characters are all in capable hands, and good business is being done.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Bebby; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Twice nightly: Mr. Bert Coote is very successful in "A Lamb on Wall Street," and is a highly amusing apparent simpleton, who is not so simple as he looks; Jack McKay, Scotch humorist, gives an admirable turn; John Terry and Mabel Lambert give an amusing and enjoyable entertainment in their international impersonations; Friend and Downing are very good; Ernest Krake and company are highly amusing in "The Electric Tram Conductor"; Piquo is a clever comedy gymnast; and Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls give an enjoyable entertainment.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. F. Coward.—Twice nightly: G. H. Chirgwin, the white-eyed Kaffir, is meeting with a splendid reception; the Astis troupe of lady gymnasts give a fine acrobatic display; Smythe and Hartman are very entertaining in their burlesque, "Before and After Marriage"; Alexandra Dagmar is as popular as ever; Mr. and Mrs. Manning present a very laughable farce; Roy Burn and Dix are very smart humorists; Les Marbas are clever acrobatic dancers; and Bob Pender's Little Dandies give an enjoyable show.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Hamilton.—Twice nightly: "The Mysterious Lady in Red" gives a remarkable vocal entertainment, the attraction of which is added to by the mystery surrounding her identity; the Selbinis give a clever trick cycling and acrobatic turn; an enjoyable sketch, "The Orange Girl," is presented by Miss Dolly Elsworthy, supported by Mr. Edwin Bennett and company; the Three Lyres have a good musical comedy item; Willie Zimmerman is a clever impersonator; Mazuz and Mazette are quaint acrobatic comedians; Terry Moss, comedian, and Wittie Wattie Walton, comedian, complete a capital bill.

GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bellian.—Twice nightly: "Sinbad the Sailor," as presented by Mr. Joe Collins, is proving very popular here. Miss Addie Leonard is a capital "boy," and Miss Ethel Callanan a dainty Sadie. A strong dramatic sketch, "Betrayed," is presented by Mr. Frank Hardie and Miss Victoria Carlton; David Poole is a clever ventriloquist; and Cissie and May Madcap diverting dancers.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Twice nightly: Messrs. Nightingale and Bishop are having a successful run with their pantomime, "Aladdin," and Miss Edna Latone in the title-rôle is having a splendid reception; Ross Warren is a smart comedian; Charles Elstree, a capital entertainer at the piano; Two Dollars, American entertainers of merit; J. W. Warner, an original ventriloquist; and Junoro and Partner, smart novelty entertainers.

NEW PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Anthony.—Twice nightly: Pictures; Cecil and Loo Kay in tit-bits of vaudeville; Jenny Hylton, child vocalist; and Ephelle, slavey violinist.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Elderton; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Steeles.—This week the patrons are well catered for by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in the great sporting drama, "The Gambler," shown in eleven excellent scenes. The play is well received. Messrs. F. Scott Leighton, Dane Clark, Leonard Harrison, Frank H. St. Clair, Frank Caffrey, Edgar Charles, Jack Hancock, Joe Black, Alf Wright, Willis Collins, John Allen, and Misses Maisie Hanbury, Bessie Scott, and Constance Medwyn depict the rôles allotted to them in splendid style.

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W. Ogden Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Warren.—A capital bill is provided here, all the turns and pictures being well received.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Blackburn Theatre Royal, Ltd.; Licensee and Manager, Mr. Harry Lyons.—This week, once nightly, The Meistersingers present "The Mikado." The company includes: Mr. Robert Turner, Mr. Edward Dean, Mr. Walter Roberts, Mr. Robert Hull, Mr. Herbert Arkwright, Miss Jennie Ibbotson, Miss Ada Crampton, Miss Marie Sellers, Miss Kitty Fergusom, Master George Marshall. Matinée, Saturday at 2.30.

PRINCE'S.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Ersser; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Hargreaves; Musical-Director, Mr. W. Haydock.—This week: Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown and company present "The Old Folks at Home," with the following cast: Mr. Richard Eerris, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Basil Brabazon, Mr. Clifford Bown, Mr. Bert Bench, Mr. Stanley Field, Mr. A. Entwistle, Mr. Wm. Speke, Mr. Sydney B. Sinclair, Mr. Arthur C. Crosby, Mr. Richard Loft, Mr. Fred Worth, Mr. Philip Nevin, Miss Clara Santley, Miss Gertie Moody, Miss Edith Giddings, Miss Glory Shannon, Miss Mary Reynolds, and Miss Claire O'Sullivan.

PALACE.—Principal Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—This week: P. T. Selbit's spirit paintings, also introducing "The Strongest Cheese on Earth"; Ross and Lewis, comedians and dancers; the Two Canadians, musical experts; the Vigoranto Troupe of gymnasts; Genochi, bird and animal mimic; Potts Brothers and company, in sketch, "A Double's Troubles"; Julian Mack, comedian; pictures complete.

STAR.—Messrs. Strong and Taylor.—This week: Pictures, and Silly Billy Elliott.

ALEXANDRA HALL.—The Dowry Picture Co.—This week; Pictures; John Holden, tenor; Wilson and Budget, in pot-pourri act.

VICTORIA HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. John Charnley.—This week: Corson and Haydon; James Bendon, the singing newsboy.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. John Bradley.—This week: Pictures, and Walmsley Marsden, comedian.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—This week (once nightly) Mr. Alfred Denville presents "The Miracle." The company includes: Mr. Clifford Rean, Mr. J. H. Clyndes, Mr. Dobcon Paige, Mr. Alfred Denville, Mr. R. Ossulston-Riche, Mr. John Denville, Mr. George R. J. Austin, Mr. T. R. Bannister, Mr. Alex. Camm, Mr. C. H. Carton, Mr. Will Moody, Mr. G. Philips-Broughton, Mr. G. Webster, Mr. George Gordon, Miss Hilda Playfair, Miss Patricia Bostock, Miss Mary Alexander, Miss Elsie Savile, Miss Hannah Bain, Miss Gertrude Carten, Miss Betty Stannard. Matinée, Wednesday, 2. Next week: "Amasis." presented by the Blackpool Lyric Amateur O.S.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank H. Jepson.—This week (twice daily, at 2.45 and 7.45): Howard and Collinson, in pantomime sketch; Paul and Fred Wille, equilibrists; the Simms, duettists; Charles Cardow, comedian; Horace White, ventriloquist; Auber, musician; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—This week, once nightly, Mr. Edwin T. Hey presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Mr. Cecile E. Anson, Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Stephen Wentworth, Mr. John Cecil, Miss Madge Trenchard, Miss Margaret Beck. Touring-Manager. Mr. Edwin T. Heys. Matinée Wednesday at 2.30. Next week, "Fanny's First Play."

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alf. Booth.—The Four Holloways, acrobatic and trick cyclists; Carter Livesey, in an "Amateur Anarchist"; Jack Hartley, comedian; Nellie Moore, actress; Gillin, humourist; Gilbert Girard, mimic; Hersleb Bros., comedy acrobats; The Six Franklins, comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Hippodrome, Bolton, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week, twice nightly, Mr. Fred W. Carpenter presents "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Ethel Campbell, Dorothy Millar, Lorna Reyard, Gladys Clare, Blanche Montague, Marie Montague, Marie Yorke, Celia Campbell, Maud Wilson, Gladys Beaumont, Barbara Waller, Nellie Travers, Maddison Rich, George Grogie, Telly Dillson, Naughton and Gold. Touring-Manager, Mr. W. J. Douglas. Matinée, Monday at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Pennington; Musical-Director, Mr. Tom Shaw. — This week (once nightly): Mr. W. W. Kelly presents "A Royal Divorce." The company includes: M. Juan Buonaparte, Mr. R. Easten Pickering, Mr. Charles Hartopp, Mr. George Howard, Mr. Alfred Holles, Mr. W. Robins, Mr. Sam V. Lysons, Mr. Edward Longford, Mr. Lawton Orme, Mr. C. Jackson, Mr. P. Morris, Mr. J. Rigby, Mr. W. O'Connor, Mr. W. Read, Miss Lillian Herries, Miss Clara Earle, Miss Olive Maitland, Miss Edyth Lynmore, Miss Agnes Zambuhl, Miss Madge Collier, Miss Marie Johns, Miss Helen Meadows, Miss Violet Ellicott. Touring-Manager, Mr. J. H. Tomkinson. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Cinderella."

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece.—This week: Mr. J. Bannister Howard's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Elsie Allen, Jean Allistone, David Keir, E. Harvey White, Teddy Carlton, Louie Danby, Gladys Allen, Cyril Chambers, Dennis Lyndon, Harry Benet, Julia Williams, Leon Dubois, Joyce Bowen, Dorothy Marsh, May Heath.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Peter A. Gawthorne, Mr. Norman Greene, Mr. Arthur Brooke, Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., Mr. Alfred Henri, Mr. Arthur H. Jenner, Mr. Cameron Carr, Mr. Lionel Victor, Miss Mary Ridley, Miss Connie St. Clair, Miss Violet Vivian, Miss Mabel Hirst, Miss Maidie Andrews, Miss Blanche Tomlin. Touring-Manager, Mr. Percy J. Purdey. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.45. Next week: "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Dan Godfrey.—This week: Each evening, and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons, visit of the Imperial Russian Ballet. Monday, at 3, the Municipal Orchestra. Tuesday, at 3, Symphony Concert. Saturday, at 8 o'clock, Special Patriotic Concert.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—As predicted, "The House that Jack Built" has been a genuine success since the opening night. It is a charming pantomime, and the company is one of all-round merit and excellence and very resourceful.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. Laidler; General-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Yearsley.—"Cinderella" is having a rare run here, thanks to the general brightness of the production and the humour of the smart comedians and clever children and the charm of the principal ladies.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—There was intense excitement here on Monday night when the very wonderful Houdini went through his remarkable performance of hanging for three minutes head downwards in a padlocked water cell, and when he succeeded in releasing himself the applause which greeted him was deafening. Aldon and Loupe give a clever acrobatic turn, and do some daring barrel jumping; in a bustling sketch, "Three and a Fool," Frank Elliston and company elicit laughter; the Real McKays are a pair of smart juveniles whose Scottish comedy is amusing; Durant Brothers, in three scenes, present a turn which is distinctly novel and quaint; Alf Chester is acceptable in a novel form; the "cheeky comedian," Alec Kendall, has a style of his own both confidential and humorous; and James Stewart, at the piano, with his usual humour as a tramp is entertaining.

PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Fred Karno's company is here this week in the sketch, "Perkins, M.P.," with Mr. Tom Nelson as Perkins; and Fred Karno also presents his latest production, viz., "Wakes Week," with Mr. Nelson as Joe Waddle. He is well supported, and the fun is great. Tom Child, the favourite tenor, is received very cordially; Avis and Barre, comedy conjurers, present a novel and amusing turn; Lilian Carter, soprano, has a sweet voice, and she sings charmingly; Charles Torbay is amusing with his shadow pictures; H. Connorton introduces a clever electric illusion, viz., "Shadows on the Blind," which is entertaining; Daisy Caulder, comedienne, provides a turn of acceptance; and pictures complete.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert. — The pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," continues to attract good houses. New songs and fresh comic business have been introduced

GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—Excellent business is being done here with the pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week: Stanley Cooke and company in "The Man from Mexico"; Willard, "the man who grows while you wait"; Frederica's Performing Terriers; Geo. D'Albert, comedian; the Newhouse and Ward Trio of comedy cyclists; Hedges Brothers and Jacobsen, rag-time entertainers; and Percy Clifford and Doris May, wooden-shoe dancers.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—"The Amazons" occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Alfred Gray gives an admirable impersonation of Viscount Litterly Barrington; Mr. Rule Pyott as the Earl of Tweenways and Mr. Campbell Cargill as Count Andre de Guval are well placed; Miss Dorothy Radcliffe presents an excellent portrayal of Lady Noeline Beltarbet: and the two other Amazons have able representatives in Miss Irene Clarke and Miss Violet Malcom-Burnett. Praiseworthy support is rendered by Miss Muriel Locking, Mr. Lawrence Meade, Mr. Eric Bass, Mr. A. Hardy, and Mr. James Clifford.

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Gilbert Laye.—"Monte Cristo," from the New Princes Theatre, London, is here this week with the original scenery and effects. Mr. Austen Milroy submits a very artistic impersonation of Edmond Dantes; Miss Etheldreda Taafe makes a graceful and charming Mercedes; Mr. H. W. Monte is entertaining as Caderousse, whose wife is ably represented by Miss Kate Walfred; Mr. Wilson Coleman is distinctly effective as M. Noirtiere; and others deserving warm commendation include Mr. Hugh Montgomery (Villefort), Mr. T. W. Dunscombe (Fernand Mondego), Mr. Arnold Winters (Abbé Faria), Mr. C. W. Standing (Danglars), and Mr. Phil Harper (Albert de Morcef).

COSY COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. H. R. Lynn.—This week (twice nightly): Albert and Wyndham and company present "Prince Arthur"; Archie Campbell, eccentric comedian; Will Pettitt, banjoist; pictures. Picture matinées, Monday and Saturday. Variety matinée, Thursday, at 3.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, the Representatives of the late Mr. J. M. Chute; Resident-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Musical-Conductor, Mr. G. R. Chapman.—Mr. Tom B. Davis' pantomime, "Dick Whittington," is progressing most successfully, and is well patronised. Miss Winifred Ward acts capitally as Dick, and her songs are all appreciated; Miss Norah Guy is dainty and pleasing as Alice, her vocal numbers being well rendered; Mr. Jack Hurst is very popular as the Cat; Miss Beatrice Collier acts cleverly as the Princess of Morocco, her singing and dancing being much admired; Mr. Tom Conway presents a capital study of Fitzwarren's cook, by name Ermyntrude; Mr. George French does excellently as Fitzwarren, all his numbers, especially his football song, being encored; Mr. William Pringle scores a success as Idle Jack, his songs, &c., all going well; Messrs. Fame and Fortune are advantageously placed as the Captain and the Mate, their knockabout specialities causing much amusement; Miss Gwladys Anstey makes a graceful Spirit of the Chimes, and she sings pleasingly; Mr. Arthur Arquit speaks his lines well as King Rat, his songs being rendered in good style; Mr. Sam Lockridge makes an imposing Emperor of Morocco; and Mr. Charles Kean scores a success as the wrestler, Henry. Scenery and dresses are quite up to the required standard; the ballet and extra ladies all do their work well, and the speciality dances of the Olympian Quartette are both clever and graceful. The pantomime from start to finish goes with excellent smoothness under the careful stage-management of Mr. Henry Turner.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; General-Manager, Mr. F. W. Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty; Musical-Director, Mr. Edwin Jacobs; Stage-Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—Well-filled houses continue to testify to the popularity of "Cinderella." Miss Anna Schuberth is a charming vocalist, and she acts very effectively as Prince Charming; Miss Alice Digby makes an attractive Cinderella, acting, singing, and dancing in good style; Miss Nellie Merton displays plenty of "go" as Dandini, she sings and dances well, and her specialities with Mr. George Rydon are always popular; Miss Grace Alison is dressed tastefully and looks charming as the Fairy Godmother, she speaks her lines excellently, and acts with the unobtrusive grace and dignity necessary for the part; the Sisters Durham are well placed as Lady Betty and Sir Geoffrey Plantaganet, as also are Miss Wallie Morgan and Miss Vera Macdonald as Sir Roger de Coverley and Lady Marjorie de Vere; Mr. Willie Reid and Mr. Victor Wakeman are amusing as the Baron and Baroness Fitzneedy; and Mr. George Rydon works very hard and is highly successful with his clever performance of Pickles, the Baron's Page. The pantomime is well staged and dressed, it goes smoothly under the stage-management of Mr. Charles P. Cooke, and some pretty speciality dances are given by the De Vene Quartette.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. Preston Hilary; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. S. Green; Musical-Director, Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Wilkie Bard is attracting full houses here, he had a fine reception on Monday evening and scored heavily with his two latest successes, "The Wrigley Rag" and "The Night Watchman." Canova's Living Porcelains represent exquisite reproductions of the world's famous porcelains, depicted in a series of beautiful tableaux. Maud Rochez presents "The Monkey Music Hall," the animals all evince wonderful training and do their turns almost as effectively as humans. Merry and Glad are smart comedy acrobats; Lorna and Toots Pounds are clever lady mimics; Frederic Sylvester and company are remarkably expert as hand balancers; Furness Williams, Welch tenor, sings pleasingly; and Harold Montague is successful with songs at the piano. "Removing sunken vessels" (on the Bioscope) concludes.

EMPIRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas; Musical-Director, Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—Great Tucker, American singing violinist, heads the bill with an excellent musical turn which is fully appreciated. Clark and Mostol do good work as eccentric comedians and dancers; Mlle Fifi Ronay presents a clever turn with her eleven highly trained poodles; Walter Stockwell, comedian, has some taking songs, and is much applauded; Mildred and Celia present a pleasing and artistic musical turn with the violin and piano; Lottie Claire is a taking comedienne with smart chorus songs; Dale and O'Malley are appreciated as cross-talk comedians, &c.; Joe Maddern and company amuse with their farcical absurdity "Too Many Darlings"; and interesting pictures conclude.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Musical-Director, Mr. Frederic Fey.—Here we have a pleasingly diversified entertainment which includes Hamilton's Excursions and Diorama of "A Tour Through France."; Selig's masterpiece in wild animal cinematography, "The kings of the forest," 1,800 feet in length; and numerous other interesting pictures. The solo vocalists for the week are Miss Muriel Cameron, soprano, and Miss Rebe Roy, contralto.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter; Musical-Director, Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—Gertie Gitana heads the bill with an excellent turn which included several pretty songs, all of which are fully appreciated. Beatrice McKenzie and Walter Shannon's company do well with their sketch "More Ways than One" Sam Lowenwith and Charles Cohan amuse as Hebrew comedians; Ina Lorimer, Scotch character comedienne, entertains with pleasing songs and dances; Jean and Josie do some remarkable contortionist feats as "The Lizard and the Crocodile"; Eugene Damond plays the violin admirably; Fred Priddoe, ventriloquist, is successful; and the Flying Hartwells do clever gymnastic work on ropes, &c.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—This week (twice nightly): "The Lighthouse Robbery," by Mr. Beaudyn's company, including Mr. J. Leon Courtville, Mr. A. R. Harper, Mr. Jack Darnley, Mr. Geo. Overs, Mr. Fred M. Hood, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, Mr. Chas. Carren, Miss Maisie Gardner, Miss Phyllis Rae, Miss Cissie St. Elmo, and Miss Irene Munro.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Dance presents "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Frank H. Crimp, Fred Monti, G. McCloskie, Fredk. Hobbs, Henry Adnes, J. Lennox, John Duncan, Glen Owen, William Greene, Hilda Stuart, Doris Dennis, Ivy Harcourt, Jenny Armstrong, May Marshall, Kitty Develin, Lucille Vivien, Lily Green, Cissie Guiver, Hilda Bellamy, Ida Harvey, Adela Crispin. Touring-Manager, Mr. T. J. Phillips. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2 p.m. Next week: "The Goose with the Golden Eggs."

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): Seven Stars from Castellano's Grand Italian Opera Co., including Signora Barone, Signora Boffini, Signor Vail, Signor Terrasi, Signor D'Ottavi, Signor Valente, Signor Vittori; Miss Josephin; Maud Hughes, soprano; Isa Wise, comedienne; Angers and Escott, comedians; Barlow and Brookes, duettists; Roma and Romani; pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre and Hippodrome, Burnley, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon present "Cinderella." Touring-Manager, Mr. Edward Beesher. The company includes: George Norton, Ennis Parkes, the Antipons, Ryde and Beeman, Rhoda Ring, Gertie Douglas, May Godfrey, Linda A. Arthur, Ethel Brailsford, Leo Fields. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15.

BURSLEM.

THEATRE AND HIPPODROME. — Sole Owners, Messrs. Moore and Beaudyn; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest G. Lord.—This week (once nightly): On Monday and Tuesday, "The Dumb Man of Manchester." The company includes: Mr. Jack Edwards, Mr. Will Burton, Mr. Fred Gresham, Mr. Harry Seaman, Miss Evie Conway, Miss Josie McDonald, Miss Emily Grove, and Mr. Ernest Serton. On Wednesday and Thursday, "Jerry, the Tramp"; Friday and Saturday, "Maria Martin." Matinée, Saturday, 3.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Business-Manager, Mr. E. de Hague Body; Musical-Director, Mr. Barrie Lee.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Carlton presents "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Mr. Wallace Boscoe, Miss Bostock, Miss Lallah Davies, Miss Lilian Fenn, Miss Ida Dorrie, Miss Dickie Dunn, Mr. Norman Langford, Mr. George Spry, Mr. George Franklin, the Fimans, Mr. Carson Hicks, Mr. Harry Wys, Miss Queenie West, Miss Beatrice Alexander, Miss Phœbe Dawson, Miss J. A. Jackson, Miss Freda Wells. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: Alexander Marsh and Co. in Shakespearean Repertoire.

BURY (LANCS).

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Sims; Musical-Director, Mr. John Peel.—This week (twice nightly): Billy Williams; Osborne and Royal, in speciality act; I'Ada, assisted by Carl F. Lister, demonstrators of telepathy; Lillian French; Three Recenders, comedy equilibrists; Comedy Fenwicks, in comedy sketch; the Four Newburys, singers and dancers; pictures.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—For the first half of this week Mr. C. Adolf Seebold is presenting "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Messrs. Harry Walshe, Fred Walker, Sam Ferris, Dai Griffiths, Harry Phillips, George Farnley, George Ritchie, Misses Gracie Rosslyn, Rosa Charles, Vesta Brownie, Olive Desmond, Elaine Rosslyn, Sylvia Rosslyn, May Portsmouth, and Freda Butler.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Fred T. Boucher; Deputy, Mr. Geo. Taylor. — Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, this week: Mr. Alban B. Limpus (by arrangement with Sir Geo. Alexander) presents "Bella Donna," with the following cast: Mr. E. W. Thomas, Mr. Dudley Stuart, Mr. W. J. Butler, Mr. J. Herbert Willis, Mr. H. Gumpert, Mr. Ernest Watts-Tye, Mr. Douglas Lewis, Mr. Alfred M'Mahon, Mr. Horace Broad, Mr. Frank Kidger, Miss Agnes Knights, Miss Flora Haydon, Miss Georgina Wynter. Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Goddard. Next week: "The Miracle."

HIPPODROME. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: The Laurie Brothers, society equilibrists; Miss Eileen Hall, in illustrated songs; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday. Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. de Roy. Next week: Capt. de Villiers' wireless airship.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L. — This week: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company in "Find the Woman." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Victor, Mr. Oliver Crombie, Mr. Olaf Hytton, Mr. Ernest Cassell, Mr. Arthur Elwyn, Mr. Walter Goodwin, Mr. Lewis Clarke, Miss Agnes Verity, and Miss Marion Lockey. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (with matinée, 2.30), Miss Julia Neilson in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury."

CANTERBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Director, Mr. William Holland.—This week (once nightly): Mr. G. Brydon Phillips presents "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Dess Desborough, Miss Lilian Rose, Miss Hero de Rance, Miss May Phillips, Miss Connie Somers, Miss Myrta Hamilton, Miss Dorothy Trowell, Mr. Chas. Gardener, Mr. Fred Louin, Cribb and Cribb, Mr. Frank Douglas, Mr. Charles Comfrey. Touring-Manager, Mr. Jas. Preston. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford; Musical-Director, Mr. Knight Pearce.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Bode and Redford's pantomime, "The Forty Thieves." The company includes: Mr. Jack Sheridan, Mr. Willie Garvey, Mr. Leonard May, Mr. Albert Felino, Miss Ethel Eden, Miss Dorothy Craske, Little Jack Marks, Mr. Archie McCaig, Miss Eda Walden, Miss Renee Reel, Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon, Mr. J. Ward, M. Ivan Kotchinsky.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Carlton presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Maggie Bowman, Nita Dunville, Harry Gilmore, Fred Dunville, Tom Owen, Tom Morton, Wheeler and Wilson, Lizette Kitchen, W. H. Gatty, Roberta Williams, Renee Gem, Florence Woolley, Minnie Moore, Jennie Harper, Flo Snoden, and J. Grier.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): J. B. Peterman and George Ricketts present "Flyaway's Derby"; Marie Kay, comedienne and dancer; Ted Hopkins, comedian; Three Prestons, in "The Village of Shift 'Em"; Shirley and Ransome, in "Jim's Pal"; Bert Weston, comedian; Arthur Young, comedian; Jen Latona, in songs of humour; and pictures.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Armstrong.—This week (once nightly): J. F. Elliston's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Viola Hamilton, Miss Meg Hamilton, Mr. Will Terry, Miss Ollie Dennie, Mr. Jack Cromo, Miss Edith Netting, Miss Dorothy Vernon, Mr. Chris Baker, Miss Adey Ellis, Mr. Will Seymour, Miss Ruby Reene, and Miss Mabel Langford. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week, twice nightly, Betty Barclay and a baritone; Jenny Lynwood, comedienne; High Davos Co., acrobatic roller skaters; Le Gay Trio, dancers; Hal Bryan, vocal comedian; May Ivy and Daisy Gilbey, musicians and dancers; Charles Prelle's Bijou Circus, and pictures.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Masterman.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. A. Campbell presents "The Queen Mother." The company includes: Mr. Richard Bosco, Mr. H. Mansfield, Mr. Frank Strickland, Mr. Wm. Lenton, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Arthur Denton, Mr. Eric Morden, Mr. Douglas Tremayne, Mr. Wilton Reed, Mr. John Rimmer, Master Frank Beresford, Miss Ruth Zillwood, Miss Laurie Potter, Miss Lina Nazeby, Miss Etter Arnold, and Miss Mary Fulton.

KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd. — This week (once nightly): The Biltons, comedians and vocalists; Bert Williams, ventriloquist; pictures. Picture matinées, Monday and Saturday, 3.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert E. Vicary.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Mr. Hugh Weybrance, Mr. J. W. Hooper, Mr. William Ogle, Mr. Cyril Dane, Mr. Gerald Wynne, Mr. Arthur Mann, Mr. Arthur Hayter, Mr. Henry Dench, Mr. John T. McCallum, Miss Maud Denny, Miss Lily Alaine, Miss Elsie Wallace, Miss Olga Morra, Miss May Leslie, Miss Kathleen Haddon, Miss Madge Robertson, Miss Dolly Mercer, Miss Jessie Allen, Miss L. Anderson, Miss Gloria Egmont, Miss Sybil Coulthurst. Touring-Manager, Mr. Henry Howard. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE. — Joint-Managing-Directors, Messrs. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E. Davis, J.P., C.C.; Manager, Mr. L. Melville.—This week (twice nightly): Chung Ling Soo, the Chinese illusionist; Doroswami, Indian violinist; Frank Hemming and Marie Free, comedy artistes; the Incomparable Dancer; Lotto, Lilo and Otto, comedy trick cyclists; Alan McDonald and Co., pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): Charburn's Twelve Young Stars; Harry Harvey, postman; Devon and Earle, dancers; Maver and Barton, comedy cyclists; Tiny Arnold, comedienne; Diana Hope and Monte Rayley in "The Penny Dreadful"; the Five Tritons; pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week: Messrs. Leighton and Yorke's company in "Jelf's," including Mr. Gedge Twyman, Mr. Arthur McCulloch, Mr. Vincent W. Lawson, Mr. Edward Ouston. Mr. J. Court Haward, Mr. Upton Sackville, Mr. Philip Calvey, Mr. Ralph Gardner, Mr. Clarence Childs. Mr. Neville Andus, Mr. Geo. T. Roberts, Mr. K. Fred Kassulke, Mr. C. T. Stevens, Miss Edith Cruikshanks, Miss Grace Denbeigh-Russell, Miss Cynthia Challis, and Miss Dorothy Mason. Next week: "Find the Woman."

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: Dandy George presents Wee Maggie, the famous chimpanzee; Norman and Allan, comedians and dancers; and pictures.

THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND CINEMA DE LUXE.—Manager, Capt. N. Blood.—This week: Ned Gray and Alice Richards, entertainers and dancers; Gracie Gerald, comedienne and dancer; Squire Day, comedian and entertainer; and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Hippodromes (Chesterfield), Ltd.; Secretary Mr. A. B. Taylor; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Sargisson; Musical-Director, Mr. Bertram Brennan.—This week (twice nightly): The famous Achmed Ibrahim Troupe, the ten real Moroccan Arabs, tumblers and pyramids; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and dancer; the Hall Wilson Trio, sensational cycling act; McCann's Irish terriers and leaping dogs; Zelda, in real musical novelties; May Delaware, comedienne; Ted Karno and Co. in pantomime sketch, "The Hotel De Quick."

CORPORATION.—Proprietors and Managers, Corporation Theatre, Ltd.—Stoddard and Hynes, in their musical act, "The Absent-Minded Beggar"; Little Phyllis May, premier male impersonator; Rohde and Roche, in "The Chameleon, the Artist, and It"; Audrey Cooper, "Just a Singer"; and pictures.

PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. A. B. Taylor; Manager, Mr. A. Baston.—This week (twice nightly): The Five Vernons, xylophone players; Wal Owen, the silent comedian; and pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—This week (once nightly): Marteller Trio, musical act; the Great Alvera, trick cyclist; and pictures.

CRESSWELL PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Rogers.—Pictures and varieties.

CLYDEBANK.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Major George Mitchell; Musical-Director, Mr. A. De Gabriell.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Fox and Henry present "A Woman Without a Soul." The company includes: Mr. Valentine Henry, Mr. Edwards, Mr. B. M. Fox, Mr. B. Wilson, Mr. C. Hallett, Mr. J. Hunter, Miss Chrissie Dunbar, Miss Grace Vascey, Miss Newton, Miss E. Revil, Mr. S. Dench, jun., and Mr. George Gordon. Touring-Manager, Mr. B. M. Fox.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona; Musical-Director, Mr. Charles Dawson.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Rignold and Macdona's company in "Fanny's First Play." The company includes: T. Connor, Gordon Simpson, Algernon Syms, Olive Baxter, Richard Green, F. Payne Palmer, L. Herbert, L. Sealy, jun., Charles Macdona, Adelaide Grace, Frank G. Bayly, Nellie Hodson, E. H. Paterson, Marie Rignold, Ethel O'Shea, Gilbert Ritchie, and Herbert Garthorne. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Price of Silence."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome (Colchester), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. C. Turner Hallett; Musical-Director, Mr. Karl Heber.—This week (twice nightly): The pantomime, "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Mollie Hackett, Miss Noreen Craigie, Miss Ethel Wilson, Miss Vera Vardon, Mr. Ted Conquest, Miss Ethel Prince, Mr. Phil Lester, Mr. Jimmy Slater, Mr. Ernie Westo, Mr. Reg. Wakefield, Mr. Freddy Rigby, Mr. Alec Lawson, Mr. Frank Martin, Mr. George Mart, and Mr. J. Templar Ellis.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. Frank J. Pitt; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Morton Hutcheson.—This week (once nightly): "Mother Goose." The company includes: Mr. Reg. London, Mr. William H. Wright, Mr. Hal Leslie, the Milton Bros., Miss Molly Cole, Miss Olive Sloan, Miss Nellie Le Breton, Miss Nellie James, Mr. C. Henry, Miss Gladys Johnson, Mr. Laurance Scott-Sheridan, Mr. A. Nicholas. Touring-Manager, Mr. H. Buckstone Clair. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.

PALACE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Richard M. Magrath.—This week: Bert Lloyd, in "What a Pal"; the Aerial Budds, trapeze artistes; Dick and Dorothy, in harmony, music and dance; Linn and Darius, lady and gentleman, in vocal and instrumental turn; Derby and Oakes, rag-time vocalists and dancers; Billy French, comedian and dancer; Bella Mora, singer and dancer; the Pathé Gazette, and Palascope pictures.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Bennett.—"The Easiest Way" is being played here this week. The company includes: Mr. J. Edward Pearce, Mr. Arthur Murray, Mr. E. Rayson-Cousens, Miss Elsie Goulding, Miss Norah Vaughan, Miss Bessie Frank, Miss Sybil Claymore, and Miss Lilian Belmore.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Stage-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week the company here includes: Messrs. Gerald Griffin and Co., Jennie Johns, Norman and Leonard Trio, Columbia Comedy Trio, the Sisters Brenton, Ferrin and Kirby, and J. H. Wakefield.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee and

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Prance; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—Detective Keen; Tony Nelson; the Ketos; Mr. Paul Lovett and Master Vincent Revelle, in "The Heart of a Child"; Otto and Olga; Tom Reno; the Motiograph depicts the latest feature films; the Motley Four. Next week: "Dick Whittington and His Cat."

PICTUREDROME.—Proprietors, Hippodrome (Devonport), Ltd.—The Four Wotucaulems, acrobatic comedians; the film production, "Father," nearly 4,000 ft. in length; Connie Mascot, dainty comedienne; George Danton, eccentric comedian.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. F. Elliston's grand pantomime, "The Goose with the Golden Eggs." The company includes: Mr. Alec Godfrey, Mr. George Goodfellow, Miss Eva Godfrey, Miss Nancy Benyon, Miss Jenny Gregson, Mr. Will Pfounds, Mr. T. A. Glover, Mr. Frank E. Melville, Mr. Ireland Cutter, Miss Nellie White, Miss C. V. Adrienne, Morton Comedy Duo, Miss Edith Rolfe, Mr. George Hudson, Miss Madge Daly, Miss Louie Carrington, Miss Sonnie Somerville, Miss Gen. Wiseman, Miss F. Almina Avis, Miss Mabelle Rose, Miss Frances Wenham, Miss Isabella Tolano, Miss De Monte, Miss Nellie Black, Miss Ella Mavelle, Miss Sophie Kingsmill, Miss Norah Darrah, Miss Claire Revell, and Miss Molly Desmond. Chorus and orchestra under the direction of Mr. W. R. Parker. Business-Manager, Mr. Leonard Dalrymple. Next week: Mr. Harry Russell's company in "Cinderella."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. J. Jackett.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Florrie Forde, Miss Stella Esdaile, Miss Flora Carlton, Miss Gracie Moore, Miss Rosa Wynford, Mr. Gilbert Payne, Mr. Arthur Stratton, Mr. Frank Summer, Little Vi Davis, Little Amica Reynolds, Austen and Lane, and Victor and Louis. Chorus and orchestra under the direction of Mr. Orlando Powell.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd.—This week: Harry Drew, Welsh basso; and pictures.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—Lessees, Andrews Pictures, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Ramsden; Operator, Mr. S. Crawshaw.—This week: Pictures.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. North; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bell; Musical-Director, Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. James Kiddie presents his pantomime. "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Lily Ennis, Miss Queenie Mayor, Miss Bessie Willow, Miss Sophie Pareezer, Miss May Grayce, Miss Ada Tyrrell, Miss Florrie Porter, Mr. Billy Wesley, Mr. Willie Barrett, Mr. Will Kirk, Mr. Leo Bliss, the Sisters Mayor, juvenile vocalists and dancers; the Lisando Bros., the marvellous equilibrists, the Sylphide Troupe of lady dancers, Miss Bertha Irving, Miss Lilian Dannell, Miss Gertie Newall, Mr. Edgar Selwyn, Mr. Robert Payne, Miss Vallie Valmore, Miss Lily Carney, Miss Violet White, Miss Freda Collard, Miss Muriel Bleasdale, Miss Bertha Bartell, supported by a powerful chorus. Musical-conductor, Mr. H. B. Kimberley. Next week: The Doncaster Amateur Operatic Society will present "Merrie England."

PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. North; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bell; Musical-Director, Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Will Van Allan, tramp musical comedian; the Wilbert-Lealand Trio, in gymnastic comedy creation, "Fun on Board Ship"; Jessie Albini, comedienne; W. Paskin presents the original Eight Frolics; Florence Wilton and Chas. F. Howard in musical comedy duologue, "The Winner"; the Misses Lytton and De Silva, operatic and ballad duettists; Guest and Newlyn, conversationalists; and pictures.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. L. W. Winter; Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford; Musical-Conductor, Mr. C. C. Hill.—This week (twice nightly): Solo, in a laughing novelty act, "A Lesson on Temperance"; Joe Archer, the "cheerful chap," in all his successes; Stalman and Russell, in the duologue, "Borrowed Plumage"; Sam Lewis, Hebrew comedian and patter artiste; Menlo and Menora, comedy acrobat and lady bender; Lily Young, versatile vocalist; and Sonny Day, speciality dancer.

KING'S HALL (Pictures).—General-Manager, Mr. H. R. Geddes.—This week (twice nightly): The Mysterious Yettmahs, in novel Japanese music scena; Josephine La Barte, entertainer at the piano; Charles Field and Miss Retta Mansell, lightning art painters and eccentric jugglers.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—"Cinderella," now in its second edition, and with new songs, dances, and "business," seems to have entered on a new lease of life. Miss Barbara Babington sings her new numbers in bewitching style, and is altogether an ideal principal boy. Miss Manica (Cinderella) and Miss Katie Marsh have also new numbers which the audience highly appreciate, Martin Adeson is the life and soul of the pantomime, and gets able assistance from his partner, Mr. Reginald Switz. "House full" is the order nightly, and the genial manager, Mr. Chas. Hyland, should be more than satisfied with the success of the production.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Charles Terry.—"The Merry Widow" pays a welcome return visit, and judging by the laughter and applause seems to be as popular as ever. The company, under the direction of Mr. J. C. Malone, is a capital one all round, the tuneful music and delightful dances being highly appreciated. Miss Mann as Sonia is a captivating widow, and her sweet voice is heard to advantage in "Vilya." Mr. Maguire is an ideal Prince, and his famous waltz with Sonia gains a double encore. Mr. Sinclair Cotter is capital as the eccentric Popoff of the piece, and receives able assistance from Mr. Tom Redmond, who is a humorous Nisch. Praise is also due to Miss Carda Walker (Natalie), whose duets with Mr. Ripley Evan (Jolidon) are encored. Miss Florence Ivey as Frou Frou dances excellently. The chorus is a remarkably capable one, and the mounting of the piece all that could be desired. Next week: "The Dollar Princess."

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry J. Baynton.—"Mother Goose" still continues to lay her golden eggs, and her popularity, if anything, seems to increase with time. All the artistes work like a happy family, and the whole production goes with a swing, so that there is not a dull moment from start to finish. Robb Wilton's dry humour puts everyone in shrieks of laughter, his interludes with the horse (Bros. Shanks) and the Goose (Mr. Guy Shanks) causing much hilarity. The ladies of the company are much admired. Miss Gladys Mavius (Colin), and Miss Avey (Jill) having a very gratifying reception nightly. Of the others, Miss Florrie Sweetman (Eric) makes a dashing "boy," and Miss Brent a charming Fairy Queen. The mounting of the piece is in every way magnificent, and the specialities of the Eight Russell Girls, Ray and Zack, and the Bros. Shanks help to make the pantomime one of the best seen in Dublin for many years.

ROTUNDA ROUND ROOM.—Manager and Proprietor, Mr. John T. Jameson.—A fine series of pictures are screened here this week. The popular Sisters Colley are a strong attraction, and Miss Murphy's Irish Orchestra render some delightful numbers during the evening.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. George Marsh.—A capital sketch, "Her Husband," in which comedy of a high order is displayed, has a hearty reception. The company under the direction of Mr. Walter Bird is a decidedly capable one. The Denisons submit a delightful mélange of singing and dancing in which rag-time is rampant; George St. Helen proves himself an actor-vocalist of no mean ability; Little Ella is a general favourite; the Conways succeed in a comedy act; Emily Millard is the possessor of a voice of much charm; George Rae is a Scotch comedian of talent, and with Ida Ernest (the Quaker Maid) makes up a first-class programme.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones.—The Great Roland is mystifying large audiences here this week, some of his tricks bordering on the supernatural; Bart and Bart contrive to blend an amount of healthy humour into their smart acrobatic act; the Dorrima Trio supply a musical treat; the Carmody Trio juggle and tumble with considerable success; Jennie Alexander is a sweet vocalist and a capital impersonator; Jumel and Brady (musicians), Archie Glen (comedian), and Frances Hanlon (comedienne) are all worthy of mention.

WORLD'S FAIR VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. James.—A capital company here includes: Ventom Swift, a coon who can sing and dance; Kitty McShane, a charming comedienne; Sid Royd, vocalist; R. Cummings, a tenor vocalist who can also play the 'cello charmingly; and pictures.

BODEGA. — Commercial-buildings, Dame-street; Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c.; Restaurant, Luncheons, Sandwich Bar; Theatrical papers.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Licensee and Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe; Musical-Director, Mr. H. Everitt Loseby.—This week (once nightly). Mr. Tom B. Davis presents "Humpty Dumpty," specially written by Mr. J. Hickory Wood, and produced under the personal supervision of Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath. The company includes: Mr. Murray Ashford, Miss Jessie Forbes, Mr. George Danvers, Miss Ada Davidson, Miss Nancy Buckland, Miss Minnie Love, Mr. Edmond Russell, Mr. Will Henry, Mr. Charles Apsey, Mr. Philip B. Ridgway, Mr. Alec Bolton, Mr. Fred Seymour, the Werds Brothers, Miss Minnie Blanchard, and Mr. Stratton Mills. Dances by the Alston Octette. Ballets arranged by Miss Ina Alston. Touring-Manager, Mr. A. J. Nicholls. Musical-Director, Mr. Tom Lewis. Matinée, Saturday, 2. Next week: The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Murphy. This week (twice nightly): Mr. Stanley Carlton presents "Her Life in London." The company includes: Mr. Stanley Carlton, Mr. William G. Marshall, Mr. James Hart, Mr. Frank H. Fortescue, Mr. R. F. Wilson, Mr. Edward Fryer, Mr. Frank Guest, Mr. Fred Coutts, Mr. Sydney Barnes, Mr. Dan Warden, Mr. Fred Garth, Miss Nora Bond, Miss Florence Young, Miss Mildred Chapman, Miss Alice Thorne, Miss Muriel Lawson, Miss Annie Ross, Miss Jennie Bayden, Miss Charlotte Bellinger, Miss Nellie De Lacey, and Miss Rubie Maude.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee and Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh; Musical-Director, Mr. E. B. Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Johnson Clark, the sportsman ventriloquist; L'Incognita, the masked soprano; Rey and Rey, comedians; Queenie May, chorus vocalist; Ko Ten Ichi Troupe of Japanese conjurers, introducing their celebrated enchanted fountains; Irve Hayman and company, in a dramatic playlet, "A Square Game"; William McNally, dulcimer soloist; Wright, the juggler of the future; Sophie Forrest, the idol of the hour; and the Kingscope. Next week: "Mother Hubbard" pantomime.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District and Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—This week (twice nightly): Victor Newman, protean actor; Cambo and Castelle, the monkey and the organ; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EMPIRE THEATRE. — Lessees, B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. J. McArthy.—This week (twice nightly): Lil Dennis, comedienne and dancer; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; Manager, Mr. J. Pennycook; Musical-Director, Mr. James Walton.—This week (twice nightly): The Mysterious Adeles, the Australian wonders, introducing thought transmission; Bros. Gagon, comedians and rag-time dancers; Beach and Brough, harmonising duo; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. Blyth. — This week (twice nightly): Nancy Lauder, comedienne and dancer; Will Roberts, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Binnall; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): Variety turns and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

WEST END CINEMA.—Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Alex Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Dave Corrie, Scotch comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clarke; Musical-Director, Mr. Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Rutland Barrington and Eustace Burnaby's company in "Ways and Means." Preceded by "Beauty and Diplomacy." The company includes: Miss Nina Bentley, Miss Delia Drew, Miss Emma Stockley, Miss Olive Wade, Miss Elizabeth Dexter, Miss Isabel Ormonde, Mr. Eustace Burnaby, Mr. Guy Dawson, Mr. Ralph St. John, Mr. Eric Bridgeman, Mr. Richard Trieves, Mr. F. Lee, Mr. Rutland Barrington. Next week: Miss Ethel Irving and company in "The Son and Heir."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; Manager, Mr. H. Raymond; Musical-Director, Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): The Lyons Trio, in pantomime absurdity; the Lorbeer, in human juggling act; Ena Vine and Mark Brewer, in musical act; Harry Raymond and Ivy, in coon songs and dances; the Norwoods, in dancing scena, "The Burglar and the Dancer"; Fred Charles, comedian; George Lennox, versatile comedian; and the Hippodrome Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Hayes; Musical-Director, Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—This week (once nightly) Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in "The Speckled Band." The company includes: Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan, Miss Joan Marshall, Miss Agnes Marey, Mr. Maurice Drew, Mr. James Horstead, Mr. Geo. W. Barnes, Mr. Herbert Bradford, Mr. V. Franklin, Mr. A. King, Mr. Victor R. Luck, Mr. H. E. Ainger, Master Fredk. Reynders, Mr. Gerald Rodgers, Mr. A. Corney Grain. Next week: Mr. Andrew Melville's company in "Monte Cristo."

FLORAL HALL.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. E. A. Brown.—Skating each afternoon on maple floor rink, and with orchestral music, on Monday and Wednesday evenings. On Saturday evening, a special Scottish concert, when Mr. Norfolk Megone will conduct a massed military band of seventy performers. Songs of Burns will be sung by Mme. Alice Toothill, Miss Helen Blain, and Mr. J. Turnbull, and Highland Strathspeys and Reels will be given by a band of Scots Pipers. Cinematograph exhibitions are given every afternoon and evening in the Pavilion.

ECCLES.

CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Rogers.—This week: Shirley Sparks, comedienne; Ted Mercell, skating comedian and dancer; and pictures.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Dowlison; Musical-Director, Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Mr. George Edwardes' company began a fortnight's engagement here last Monday with "The Dancing Mistress," which was then presented for the first time in Edinburgh. Miss Dora Fraser, in the title part, possesses all the qualifications necessary for the successful interpretation of the charming Nancy Joyce. Miss Fraser has a tall graceful figure, easy and natural gestures, and a voice of much sweetness and expression, which was heard to advantage in the music allotted to her. Mr. W. Louis Bradfield had an enthusiastic reception on his first entrance, and by the humour of his acting, the dash and vigour of his dancing, and his skilful singing, he once again contributed largely to the exhilaration of the performance by his impersonation of Teddy Cavanagh. Mr. Harold B. Pearce played with quiet humour as Lord Lyndale, and Mr. Edward D'Arcy was droll as Widdicombe, when the part gave him opportunities. Miss Rita Presomo was a piquant, sparkling Mlle. Touchet, and added greatly to the success of the piece; while Miss Daphne Glenne was always pleasant and expressive as Bella Peach. Miss Luna Love got a deal of fun out of the part of Jeanie McTavish, her dancing was neat and expressive, and her efforts to grapple with the difficulties of the Scotch dialect were praiseworthy. Mr. Guy Le Feuvre acted effectively as Baron Montalba, and his fine rendering of the waltz song, "When you are in love," was one of the hits of the evening. Other members of a large cast who deserve mention are Miss Ada Palmer, who gave an excellent character study as Miss Pindrop; Miss Mabel Munroe, as Lady Margrave; and Mr. Robert Challis as a Customs Officer. Mr. Thos. M. Tunbridge, Mus. Bac., Oxon, conducted the orchestra with ability. The piece was beautifully mounted, Mr. Hawker's "The Chalet, Oberwald," being especially admirable.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Whitehead; Musical-Director, Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The pantomime, "Sinbad," pursues its successful career at this house.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. P. L. Howat; Musical-Director, Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.—"Dick Whittington" has undoubtedly caught on with the Edinburgh public and seems as if it would run for many weeks longer, although prior engagements necessitate its withdrawal at the end of next week.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Musical-Director, Mr. James Howarth.—Good houses have not been slow in showing the popular appreciation of Messrs. Day and Lauri's "Cinderella" pantomime, which in its tabloid form compresses a vast amount of diversion into a two-hours' entertainment. The comedians, notably Mr. George Bass, Mr. James Ross, Mr. George Loyal, and Messrs. Kimberley and Melbourne, work indefatigably with great success in keeping the fun very much alive all through the piece; while Miss Rosalie Jacobi, as the Prince, and Miss Empsie Bowman, as Cinderella, divide the singing honours very pleasingly. The Lottie Stone and Austen Troupes of Dancers contribute sundry attractive terpsichorean revels; and Miss Katrina Blakowski merits special mention for her artistic execution of two most acceptable pas seuls. A powerful and efficient chorus, as well as an augmented orchestra, also lend their aid to an enjoyable performance. The cast also includes a good fairy godmother in the person of Miss Dora Christian, and Mr. Jack Harris and Miss Grace Ross as the Baron and Baroness; with Miss May Ronayne, Miss Ruby Aston, and Miss Dorothy Hope, who do useful work gracefully in the rôles of Dandini and Lord and Lady Nobody.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week: "Sinbad the Sailor." The company includes: Misses Ethel Ra-Leslie, Mildred Parr, Gaye and Elsie Robertson, Agnes Bond and Mabel Kimpton, and Messrs. Harry Morgan, Sam Ello, Alfred E. Mann, and Jimmy Merrylees.

ELECTRIC THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. G. E. Atkinson.—This week: Bunth and Rudd, American eccentric comedians; Gordon, military ventriloquist; Jack Gilroy, baritone; Allan Borthwick and company, in sketch, "Half a Dollar," provide the varieties; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. E. Atkinson; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. E. Cooper.—This week: The Leonas, in musical act; the Marshams, in comedy sketch; Sam Ives Trio of ball-punchers; Gallacher and West, eccentric comedians; and pictures.

FERNDALE.

WORKMAN'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. David Williams.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's company in "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife (?)." The company includes: Percy Brown, Claude Graveley, Edward Franks, Cyril Grier, Cliff Deane, Sid Hobson, Arthur Lowry, George Morton, Anna Corrie, Vida Haslewood, and Kathleen Magee.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. B. Hampton; Musical-Director, Mr. George Cooper.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Allan Aynesworth presents "Ready Money." The company includes: Mr. Mark Blow, Mr. Fred Tooze, Mr. Laurence Ward, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Cedric Percival, Mr. Cyril Ashford, Mr. Aubrey Mather, Mr. Wilfrid Bailey, Mr. Douglas Payne, Mr. Sidney Lynn, Mr. William Holmes, Mr. Frank Hamilton, Mr. Jack Thomas, Miss Adelaide Tanne, Miss Helen Langton, Miss Dorothea St. Clair Smith, Miss Olivia Glynn. Touring-Manager, Mr. Arthur Bishop. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Goody Two Shoes."

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week: Mr. Harry Russell presents "Cinderella" (twice nightly). The company includes: Miss Poppy Milton, Mr. Ernest Ridgwell, Miss Madge Allan, Miss Topsy Johnson, Mr. Colin Bryce, Mr. Fred Young, Miss Jesse Jess, Mr. Harry Russell, Miss Lily Leighton, Miss Ruby Leighton, Mr. Stanley Worden, Mr. Hazell Jefferies, and Miss Lilian Errol.

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week: Mr. Oswald Cray and company present "The Mormon and His Wives" (twice nightly). The company includes: Mr. Oswald Cray, Mr. David Blair, Mr. William Burton, Mr. Macintosh Clyde, Mr. H. Reynolds, Mr. Harold Stephens, Mr. Leslie Howard, Mr. Leonard H. Rooke, Mr. W. M. Wright, Mr. Ernest Duval, Mr. Chas. Fields, Miss Helen Lowther, Miss Pattie Dene, Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes, Miss Mamie Reindeer, and Miss Sybil Hare.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Black Bros.; General-Manager, Mr. A. Roberton, jun.—This week (twice nightly): Corbin and his wonderful dogs; Snowball and Dolia, comedians; Les Videos, in skating act; and pictures.

SHIPCOLE HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Reed, Brown and Co.; General-Manager, Mr. J. Fenwick.—This week: Miss Scott; and pictures.

PALLADIUM.—Proprietors, Messrs. Palladium Picture Co.; General-Manager, Mr. J. Armstrong. This week: Pictures (once nightly).

GILLINGHAM.

GRAND.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. T. Beattie; Musical-Director, Mr. C. Dowell.—This week: The Five Whiteleys, in their wire-walking and acrobatic act; Harry Brooks, the musical navvy; Cooke, juggling comedian and dancer; Brezelsky, soprano vocalist; and pictures.

GEM.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and S. Goodman; Manager, Mr. C. Goodman.—The Norreys, drawing-room entertainers; Willie Clive, comedienne; and pictures.

GLASGOW.

KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—After a highly successful holiday season in Edinburgh, Mr. Robert Courtneidge's sumptuous production, "Princess Caprice," opened here on Monday. The company now includes Mr. Eric Thorne, who, as Bogumil, fairly excels himself as a purveyor of quip and gag; in the title-part, Miss Marie Blanche's performance is one of great charm; and as Augustin, Mr. Gordon H. Cleather sings and acts with admirable taste; the rôle of Princess Clementine is played by Miss Mary Dandridge with sprightly grace; and as Anna, Miss Isabelle Dillon is also very pleasing; in Jasomir, Mr. Albert Kavanagh has a good part; as Prince Nicola, Mr. Harry Ray gives an exceedingly smart impersonation; Mr. Jo Monkhouse appears as Prime Minister, and makes a hit with the topical song; in the part of the Lay Brother, Mr. Horace Lingard is good; the parts of the Banker (Mr. Ormsby H. McKiernan) and the Bailiff (Mr. James Stevenson) are also well filled. The chorus and orchestra are ably directed by Mr. Edwin Thornton.

ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Directors, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry F. Ashton; Musical-Director, Mr. Alfred Carpenter.—"The House that Jack Built" has laughter-producing scenes, beautiful dresses, and bright music. As Jack, Miss Gwladys Soman works hard and successfully; the part of Charity has admirable treatment from Miss Daisy Yates; Miss Ida Valli is responsible for an excellent interpretation of Sue, singing and dancing with vivacity and charm. Mr. Billy Merson leads the way in comedy with his amusing antics as Sammy, and keeps the house in high good humour. Great assistance is given Mr. Leonard Barry as Bill Durden. Mr. Joe Nightingale as Dame Durden, also aids the fun. Mr. Fred Barnes as the Prince, makes the part a fine rollicking one, singing his songs with ease and finish. He has established himself a great favourite. The good fairy, Gleam, is charmingly presented by Miss Ivey Latimer; the demon, Glum, is well looked after by Mr. Reginald Crompton; Mr. W. Fullbrook as a policeman provides excellent comedy; Miss Winnie Browne does well as Guy, and Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie does well as Anybody. Miss Blanche Leiper and Mr. Sidney Black as Maggie and Tammas respectively, are clever dancers. The Eight Russell Girls sing and dance capitally.

ROYALTY.—Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Simon Ord, —Kinemacolor still forms the chief attraction here, and this week such varied subjects as "Motor-boat racing," "Fishing industry," and "The habits of water beetles" are interspersed with humorous films.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch; Musical-Director, Mr. Henri Vollmer.—Enthusiastic crowds continue to pack this house nightly. Chiefly responsible for the fun of the evening are: Mr. Dan Whitley, Mr. Billy Walters, Mr. Cecil Rutland, and Mr. Stanley Damerell; as Goody Two-Shoes, Miss Jenny Hartley is charming, and Miss Kitty Dale is most interesting in the part of Harry; Miss Kitty Emson and Miss Rita Emson fill their parts in a taking manner.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry C. Edwin.—This week "The Great White Chief" is staged under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott, the latter in the part of Latika, the Indian maid, a character which suits her admirably; as Leo Stanley, the Great White Chief, Mr. Percy Folliss does well; Reindeer, a dumb chief, is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Russell Norrie; the sinister parts of Hartley Deane and Hester Starford by Mr. Charles E. Johnson and Miss Phyllis Elton respectively are well filled; and the lighter element is supplied by Mr. Leonard Maitland as George Rupert Walker and by Miss Dorothy Charles as Martha Jane Curley.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. B. Moore.—The place of honour here is taken by Those Three Rascals, expert ragtime vocalists at the piano. W. T. Ellwanger and company are seen to much advantage in a roaring farce, entitled "Who Did It?" and Adam Tomlinson, the Tyneside comedian, keeps the house in fits of laughter. Beauty, strength and dexterity are ably represented in the performance given by Katie Sandwina; and the Leslie Brothers never fail to give a Glasgow audience the worth of their money as musical comedians. John and Mac Burke, presenting "The Rag-time Soldier," are exceptionally clever; and an amusing boxing bout is given by Vittorio and Georgetto, upside-down comedians. Other members include Trixie Marris, in her latest successes; and Chass Lewis, smart ventriloquial artiste.

PAVILION, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Musical-Director, Mr. R. F. Steele.—Three excellent sketches form the principal items in the programme here. One is a cleverly written duologue in which Miss Ellis Jeffreys makes her first appearance in a variety programme, and the other part is taken by Mr. Herbert Sleath. It is entitled "Miss Take, of Montana," and affords a good contrast between the bustling American girl and the more sedate English nobleman. Both artistes were heartily applauded. The second sketch is called "The Girl in Possession," by Mr. Stanley Brett and company, which proves a smart and clever item, not too highly spiced, but, like

"What? You an Englishman —native of the most-bathed country in the world—and you don't know the joys of a mustard-bath?

"I thought *every* Englishman kept himself fit and well by taking mustard baths regularly. The thorough sportsman who told *me* about it does, *always*.

"And the master under whom I studied English taught us all, years ago, the virtues of a mustard bath. He was an all-round athlete, and a scholar as well, and 'Colman's' was his motto.

"He explained to us youngsters that the extraordinarily beneficial effect of a mustard bath is due to the peculiar action created by the combination of mustard and water—say a couple of tablespoonfuls or so in an ordinary bath.

"The skin is not the only portion of the body that benefits. The nerves and important organs are also benefited by the action of the mustard bath on the surface blood-vessels, which are in immediate 'concert' with the entire physical and nervous systems."

Water is good for bathing. Soap and water is better. Soap and water and *mustard* is the finest known tonic for tired nerves and muscles. The exhilaration after a mustard bath is proof — and that exhilaration does not wear away quickly as do the effects of less wholesome "stimulants" of the body and nerves.

'Let Muster Mistard prepare your bath.'

many other "pyjama plays," sliding dexterously over some very thin ice. It was also well acted. The third is a distinctly novel item called "Their Point of View," by Miss Addie Boyne and company, and hits off State-aid in industrial schools in many neat and well-turned bits of dialogue. Bi-Ber-Ti is a neat and clever conjurer; Alberta Flahey is a lady violinist of exceptional ability; Ford Williams sings several bass songs in good style; Lona Wayne is a new comedienne who possesses a distinct vein of original humour; and Rimmer and Beaumont introduce a clever comedy act. The last item on the programme is an acrobatic act by Mason and Bart, whose turn is so full of surprises and daring feats that it made a very decided success, and formed a fitting climax to a first-rate programme.

OLYMPIA.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. John M'Millan; Musical-Director, Mr. Lex Holmes.—"Little Red Riding Hood" is being presented here. Miss Madge Beresford, an excellent Boy Blue, plays in a charming manner; and Miss Gwen Zalska as Red Riding Hood makes an admirable principal girl. Miss Bunhy Gordon as Fairy Glowworm, and Mr. Will Davidson, sing well. Prince Charming and Margery Daw are represented by the Brookland Girls. Mr. Jackson Brown, a capable comedian, takes the part of Baron Badlot, and Mr. Fred Lincoln is seen to advantage as Dame Trot. Mr. Charles Calvert and Mr. Alf Maynall, knockabouts, are seen as Tommy Green and Johnny Stout; and Mr. Ben Verity, negro comedian, plays the part of Pete. The popular songs include, "Who were you with last night?" sung by Miss Madge Beresford, and "That mysterious rag."

SAVOY.—Lessees, Lillie Williams, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. H. Godwin.—After an absence from Glasgow of two weeks, the Williams panto., "Babes in the Wood," is here again at the above theatre this time. Misses Louie Edmonds, Dorothy le Pace, and Nellie Govin are attractive and clever principals. Miss Daisy Clifford as the Baroness is a most amusing comedienne, and lots of fun is provided by Messrs. G. Hyland, Bob Stephenson, Harry Harcourt, Archie Glen, and Sol and Joel, the latter as the Hebrew robbers. Two smart youngsters, Little Alex. and Wee Peggy, play their parts splendidly as the Babes, and are clever singers and dancers. Mr. P. S. Gilbert is a dramatic vocalist as Herne the Hunter, and Miss Elaine Cliff sings sweetly as Fairy Starlight. Misses Jeanie Robson, Babs Mackay, Peggie Dearing, and Dorothy May, all give a good account of themselves. Messrs. Tom Read and Jack McKinley contribute a lot of rough and tumble fun. A feature of the panto. is the operatic music introduced, and the concluding scene is entitled "Frolics in Japan," a picturesque setting.

STAR PALACE, PARTICK.—Proprietors, Star Animated Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—The chief attraction here is the Scottish musical sketch, "Poosiehansie; or, A Sicht of Robbie Burns."

GRAND.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry J. Crane.—Success still continues to attend the pantomime. The parts of Goody (principal girl) and Reggie (principal boy) are well sustained by Miss Daisy Dormer and Miss Mabel Medrow respectively, the charming vocalism of both being a feature; Miss Dormer excels in her dancing items; much of the success is due to the droll humour of Mr. Jay Laurier as Timothy Lacks, and to the lively interludes of the Griffiths Bros. as Fits and Starts; Miss Gwennie Harcourt makes a hit in her part of Mary; as Fido, Mr. Geo. Conquest, jun., gets through a very difficult part with great credit; Mr. Harry Conlin scores heavily as the mirth-provoking Dame, and as the Squire, Mr. Charles Harvey fills the rôle admirably; Rose Chandler and Dollie Payne as Dorothy and Jack respectively contribute acceptably; and the work of Miss Leah Hanman and Miss Madge Diston as the Twin Fairies of Mischief is cleverly done. A special feature is the brilliant dancing of the sixteen members of the Sherman-Fisher Ballet Troupe, whose performance with floral hoops captivates the audience.

HENGLER'S.—The water spectacle, "The Balkans," with circus and variety items.

PRINGLE'S, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Paulton; Musical-Director, Mr. William Milne.—This week (twice nightly): The Three Annfields, instrumentalists and dancers, contribute capably; and Madge Goodall sings with much acceptance.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Miss Lottie Lennox, the popular comedienne, sings three numbers in her own inimitable style; "When Swords are Drawn" is an intensely dramatic episode from the pen of Mr. James Willard, who in his impersonation of the spy is ably seconded by Miss Dollie Bishop and Mr. Fred Wilson. The Oakes Duo create great merriment in "Woman's Rights"; and Matthews and Haming are responsible for unlimited laughter. Leeburn's Ten Stars are a capable juvenile combination. The other artistes are: The Brothers Leo, comedians; Mac Meries, "the tramp and his funny aeroplane"; Hampton and Bauman, Creole dancers; and St. George Sylvesta, wizard.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—After a successful run at the Olympia, Liverpool, Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," opened here on Monday to two crowded houses. With two such popular favourites as Harry Weldon and May Moore Duprez in the cast (as Idle Jack and Gretchen) it was natural that the audience should expect a lot from them, and both artistes were in great form, and in a most generous mood. Besides these two, the pantomime is well cast. Miss Wilmott Karkeek is a handsome and dashing Dick, and sings her songs well. Miss Alice Nixon is a dainty Alice, Miss Josephine Ellis is a charming Princess, and both of these ladies have some of the most popular songs in the production allotted to them. Mr. J. Salter is very good as Fitzwarren, and, with the Brothers Bass as the Captain and Mate, this trio help the fun along admirably. Jack Tucker does well as the Cat; Jack Bland is a fiery Emperor; Marjorie Gordon dances well as the Fairy; and Dudley Walton infuses the dramatic element into the part of King Rat. Violet Locke and Poppy Lytton as May and Roderick complete the cast, with the exception of a quaint little woman whose name is not given, and who forms an excellent foil to the ridiculous fun of Harry Weldon. The Lottie Stone Troupe of Dancers, and Sydney Russell's Eight Stars, contribute some excellent songs and dances, ragtime and otherwise. The pantomime is here for three weeks, and is sure to be a big success.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Butt; Manager, Mr. Edward Foster; Musical-Director, Mr. Howard Croft.—Mr. Harry Burns' pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," made a happy beginning here on Monday, and the brightness of the spectacle and the fun provided all through were heartily enjoyed. As Gaven, Miss Olive Plant makes a decided hit, and a clever and lively Morgiana is provided by Miss Mona Vivian. Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is well suited as the handsome Captain of the Thieves. As Ali Baba, Jim Bond is, of course, sure of a hearty welcome back to Glasgow, and he is of great value to the production, his "bar" scene being the big success it always is. As the Dame, Edwin Garth is also well to the front in the fun department, and has a lot of clever business. Mr. P. Renoux gets in some tragic moments as Cassim Baba, and Mr. Bobby Walker is amusing as the Lieutenant of the Forty. Beatty Brothers help the fun as two Persian policemen; Miss Muriel Santon is an attractive Fairy; Miss Mabel Fenwicke speaks her lines well as the Spirit of Avarice; and Miss Winnie Barr makes a pretty Barmaid. The Four Fedoras dance well, and make prominent officers in the Forty. A large and attractive chorus gave excellent effect in the principal scenes, and both the scenery and the dresses are on a lavish scale.

LYCEUM.—Proprietors, Lyceum Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden; Musical-Director, Mr. Thos. Walker.—Walter Ellis and company submit a couple of amusing sketches—a screaming farce entitled "Little Willie," and "The Sleepwalker." Another pleasing turn is the Elvins (Minnie and Nellie), vocalists. Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist; the Yorkshire Rustics, juvenile vocalists and dancers; the Three Clarkes, club manipulators and jugglers; Frances Kinders, vocalist and dancer; and the Vedras, acrobatic eccentrics.

PANOPTICON.—Proprietor and Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard; General-Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—This week (four times daily): Mustard and Cress, in comedy act; Bessie Adams, comedienne and dancer; Mary Macintosh, comedienne; the Prairies, in cowboy scena; pictures.

IBROX PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Sowerby.—This week (once nightly): H. M. Somers, clog dancer; Fanning's Marionettes; Ruby Retford, comedienne and dancer; pictures.

CASINO.—Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Glenroy.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Clyo and Rose Rochelle, comedy duo; Clarke and Davis, in Hebrew act; Sisters Ena, vocalists and dancers; Frank Jerome and his Kiddies; pictures.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser; Acting-Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. W. E. Cottrill. — This week: Messrs. Cameron, Franklin and Lancaster's pantomime company in "Dick Whittington and His Cat." The company includes: Miss Janet Lawson, Miss Winifred Collins, Mr. J. H. Ellis, Mr. Paul Simms, Mr. J. Lennard, Miss Maude Argyle, Miss Dorothy Wilson, Miss Lily Veno, Miss Hilda Newsome, Miss Ivy Grant, Mr. A. Voyce, Mr. Fred Franklin, Miss May Mignon, Mr. Will Leopold, Mr. E. Marion, Miss Bertha Millar, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Brown, Miss Edna Gray, Mr. T. H. Harris, and Little Zonie. Matinée, Saturday.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Edwardes' presents "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Mr. Field Fisher, Mr. Mansell Stringer, Mr. Barnard Moore, Mr. Dutton Nicholls, Mr. Franklin Davies, Mr. J. Western, Mr. Allen Forde, Mr. Bevan Browne, Mr. J. Sharland, Mr. Howard V. Crofton, Miss Clarice Lockstone, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Madge Broadwood, Miss Dora Keys, Miss Peggy Grey, Miss Ruby Tattarsall, Miss Sadrene Storri, and Miss Mary Hesseltine. Touring-Manager, Mr. George Gray. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "Aladdin."

KING'S HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—The vaudeville turns here this week are: Vandinoff, lightning painter; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler; and the Fourteen Colonial Boys, in camp scena entitled "Encamped."

GRANTHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Campbell; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Marshall.—This week (once nightly, for three nights): Alban B. Limpus's company in "Bella Donna." The company includes: Mr. E. W. Thomas, Mr. Dudley Stuart, Mr. W. J. Butler, Mr. J. Heribert Willis, Mr. H. Gumpert, Mr. Ernest Watts-Tyre, Mr. Douglas Lewis, Mr. Alfred McMahon, Mr. Horace Broad, Mr. Frank Kidger, Miss Agnes Knights, Miss Flora Haydon, and Miss Georgina Winter. Next week: "The Babes in the Wood."

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Collins; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—This week (twice nightly): Gird-Sans, in Japanese speciality; Loates and Stockdale, comedy artistes; Dorrit Maclaren, comedienne and dancer; Jack Hinkins, comedian; La Vino, in juggling act; the Clancy Girls, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; A. Bex, in string act; and pictures. Next week: Fred Eustace and company.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude presents "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Mr. David Urquhart, Mr. R. B. Drysdale, Mr. Abie Barker, Mr. Frank Reynor, Mr. Forest Niven, Miss Mary Campbell, Miss Josephine Woodward, Miss Ella Young, Miss Eva Young, Miss Jean Clyde. Touring-Manager, Mr. F. C. Pool. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Girl in the Train."

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Carlton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. R. Bingley.—After an absence of five years the D'Oyly Carte Opera company is here again this week. The company includes: Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. Henry A. Lytton, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Allen Morris, Mr. Frank Steward, Mr. Fred Drawater, Miss Olive Turner, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Hilda Cross, Miss Ethel George, Miss Minnie Howell, and Miss Louie Rene. The operas being presented are "The Mikado" (twice), "The Gondoliers," "H.M.S. Pinafore," and "Trial by Jury," "Patience," and "The Yeomen of the Guard."

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Musical-Director, Mr. T. Stevens.—Mark Sheridan is being well received here this week, and is presenting his latest comedy successes; Max Erard's company present a vocal scena, "The Silver Wedding," which is very entertaining. Other turns are the Violet Shelley Trio, in a dramatic sketch, "Clem"; Judge's cockatoos; Ivy Aberdare, comedienne and dancer; Jack Edge, comedian; and the Villions, comedy cyclists.

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint-Managing-Director, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week: The Manities, in their novel comedy and juggling act; Ethel Vere, comedienne and dancer; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3 p.m.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Musical-Director, Mr. Edwin James.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, C. Vernon Proctor's company in "What Happened to Jones." The company includes: Mr. Charles Sewell, Mr. G. Carleton Crowe, Mr. Frank Venn, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Mr. Claude Seaton, Mr. John Lirwill, Mr. C. Vernon Proctor, Miss Harrietta Polini, Miss Nancy Clutterbuck, Miss Sara Dudley, Miss Christine Jensen, Miss Connie Meadows, and Miss Amy Rudd. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Martin Harvey's company in "The Lowland Wolf" and "The Breed of the Treshams." The company includes: Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Charles J. Cameron, Mr. Franklin Dyall, Mr. Albert E. Raynor, Mr. George Cooke, Mr. Percy Walsh, Mr. Gordon McLeod, Mr. Denholm Muir, Mr. Eugene Wellesley, Mr. David Bain, Mr. Ernest Stidwell, Mr. Alfred Ibberson, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. A. Robinson, Miss Bessie Elder, Miss Florence Hunt, Miss Mary Gray, Miss Annie Furrell, Miss N. De Silva, Miss Brenda Gibson. Business-Manager, Mr. Frank B. O'Neill. Musical-Director, Mr. W. H. Hudson.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hinton.—Edward Marris' pantomime, "Red Riding Hood." Company includes: Miss Florrie Arthur, Miss Bessie Esmond, Miss Jessica Brook, Miss Jessie Ewart, Miss Gwen Clifford, Mr. J. C. Morris, Mr. Harwood Cooper, the Bernharts, Mr. Alfred Rushen, Mr. Fred Gibbins, Mr. Edgar Martell, Mr. Dick Martell. Specialities by the Society Quartette, the Eight Model Maids, Gwen Clifford, and the Martells. Business-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grandby.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Musical-Director, Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: A. D. Robbins, the cycle tamer; Four Royal Scots, musicians; Oran Trio, gymnasts of strength; Miss Barbara Huntley and company in "Miss Clever Dick"; Arthur Royd, tenor; Tom Jersey, magical and comedy artiste; Gladys Huxley, comedienne; and Bowden and Stol, comedy acrobats.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Frank Powis.—Messrs. Harris and St. John Denton's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor," concludes its five weeks' run to-day. It has been a great success.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Dudley Bromwich.—This week's bill includes: Percy Honri and company in "Bohemia"; Florence Esdaile, soprano vocalist; Polly and Day, pantomimists; Hill and Ackerman, in acrobatic comedy; Mlle. Yetta on the wire; and pictures.

KING'S.—Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This week: Will Want, comedian, supplies the vaudeville items; and the pictures are fine.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith; Musical-Director, Mr. R. Gower Brown.—This week (once nightly): Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the O'Mara Opera Co. present: Monday, "Faust"; Tuesday "Carmen"; Wednesday (matinée), "Il Trovatore"; Wednesday (evening), "Maritana." The company includes: Miss Irene Ainsley, Miss Kathleen McCully, Miss Marie Lewis, Miss Muriel White, Mr. Joseph O'Mara, Mr. Alec Tait-Knight, Mr. Walter Hume, Mr. Walter Montgomery, Mr. Arthur Vallance, Mr. Stanley Carleton. Touring-Manager, Mr. Wilfred Esmond. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Mr. B. Iden Payne presents "Katawampus." The company includes: Isobel Carma, Philip Lawton, Evelyn Craven, Sylvia Dawson, Oliva Novina, Jose Hennessey, Thomas Doyle, George Brame, Gladys Ullane, Esme Percy, Alf. Crabtree, Erard Vernon, George Brame, May Russell, William West, Harold Greaves, Alfred Crabtree, Edith Harsley, Flo Davis and Jessie Goodwin. Touring-Manager, Mr. Alfred Payne. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Red Riding Hood."

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. C. E. Scutt.—For the first half of this week the Hastings and St. Leonards Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society in "Iolanthe" (by permission of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte). The last three nights and matinée Saturday, 2.30, Mr. Frank Weathersby presents "The Witness for the Defence." The company includes: Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. Charles H. Ceswick, Mr. George Delaforce, Mr. Harry Chelford, Mr. Herbert Maule, Mr. Reginald C. Harvey, Mr. Graham Ness, Mr. Ernest Cardoss, Miss Constance Holder, Miss Elsie Roberts, and Miss Dorrie Roberts. Manager, Mr. Herbert Maule; Musical-Director, Mr. Thomas Hilton.

HEREFORD.

KEMBLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Stanton Jones.—This week: Mr. Arthur Carlton presents "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Mr. Eric Clifford, Miss Nellie Burke, Miss Fay Desmond, Miss Millie Seale, Miss Ina Thornton, Miss Iris Dene, Mr. George Hirste, Mr. Tom Collins, Messrs. Fyne and Hurley, Mr. Eric Victor, Miss May Harper, Miss F. Green, Miss F. Grier, and Miss G. Snowdon. Orchestra under the direction of Mr. J. W. Austin.

HUDDERSIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—This week, once nightly, Mr. George Dance presents "The Hope." The company includes: Franklyn Bellamy, J. L. V. Leigh, R. S. Trelawney, Montague Weston, Harry Hardy, Frank Sealey, E. Clifford Cobbe, J. Malcolm Watson, John Baxter, Frank D'Esterre, Leslie J. Banks, V. Harbord, Bertram Phillips, Harry Phydora, Enid G. Forde, Hilda Vaughan, Daisy Gwynne, Irene Gordon, Winnifred Burke, Freda Wharton, Marjorie Lawton, Ivy Shepperd. Matinée, Saturday at 2.15. Next week, "Sweet Nell of Old Drury," and "A Scrape o' the Pen."

HIPPODROME.—The first visit of Mr. Martin Harvey to Huddersfield brought together a crowded and fashiouable audience. The popular actor opened his three nights' appearance with "The Breed of the Treshams." In this Mr. Harvey scored a personal triumph, and his company gave him support of a high character. The principal members of the cast are, in addition to Mr. Harvey, Mr. Charles J. Cameron, Mr. Franklin Dyall, Mr. Albert E. Raynor, Mr. Geo. Cooke, Mr. Percy Walsh, Mr. Gordon McLeod, Mr. Denholm Muir, Mr. Eugene Wellesley, Mr. David Bain, Miss Florence Hunt, Miss Mary Gray, Miss Annie Furrell, and Miss N. de Silva. On Tuesday night the piece presented was "The Lowland Wolf."

PALACE.—The principal item this week is Charles W. and John R. Poole's myrioramic production depicting the loss of the Titanic. Others in the bill are Tom E. Hughes, comedian; Alan Farman, character vocalist; Miss Violet King, entertainer at the piano and on the violin; C. H. Charlton, conjurer; Les Yost, clay modellers; Alveretta, Rego and Stopit, in an acrobatic skit; and the pictures.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—On Monday evening Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson began his farewell tour of the British provinces at this theatre. Needless to say, a large audience assembled to welcome our premier actor and bid adieu to this great and eminent artiste. The play chosen was "Hamlet," and at this house what can one say in deeper praise of a conception that stands unrivalled upon the contemporary stage? In his hands Hamlet is a living being, able to feel deeply all man's passion of love and hate, no mere barque driven to and fro on a sea of mental incertitude. It was in the great episodes of the play that Mr. Forbes-Robertson was seen at his best—the injunction to the players, and the scene with Hamlet's mother were remembrances that one will treasure for ever in pleasant and loving memory. Finely conceived was Miss Gertrude Elliot's Ophelia, a companion picture, worthy to rank alongside to her husband. A fine figure was that of Polonius played by Mr. H. Athol-Forde. The Laertes of Mr. A. Scott-Gatty was well thought out, and for the Queen Mother as read by Miss Adeline Bourne one has naught but the utmost praise. Mr. Walter Bingham gave full and proper emphasis to the rôle of the King. The Ghost gave Mr. Percy Rhodes the opportunity to display pleasing gifts of elocution. The remainder of the rôles were in capable hands. During the week "The Third Floor Back," "The Light that Failed," and "Mice and Men" are in the répertoire. With deep interest the visit has been anticipated, and is looked upon as the most distinguished in a season that is full of great attractions. The management of Mr. Forbes-Robertson's company is entrusted to the capable hands of Mr. Percy Burton.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—An attraction for the patrons of this house is provided this week in the first visit of Frank Lindo's company in the domestic drama, "His Child Wife." The play, full of striking incidents, affords every chance for the actor, and Mr. Lindo as Jas. Rackett has a rôle that admits of full display of his powers. Eminently successful, too, is Miss Marion Wakeford as Ruth Fairholme, the factory girl. A clever character study is furnished by Mr. John Soden. Others in the cast do good work.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Morrisey presents "Life in the Wild Bush"; Rich Taylor, ventriloquist; the Haytors; Frank L. Gregory Troupe, hoop rollers; Henry Helme, singer; Hayes and Merritt, bounding marvels; Archie Naish, entertainer; Billy Marsden and his concertina; Quigley Bros., comedian and dancers; pictures.

TIVOLI.—Lessees, Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week: Lalla Selbini presents "The Lion's Bride," "The Rajah's Dream," &c.; Lily May, comedienne and dancer; Eddie Astor, dancing juggler; Dorothy Tancredi, soprano; Three Hodginis; Edna Zora, in song scena; Carl Rosina, at the piano; Fred Carey, comedian.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: Cavallotti Brothers, musical speciality; Smit and Smit, comedy gymnasts; Daisy and her Eight Stars, juvenile act; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM. — Proprietors, The Ipswich Lyceum Co., Ltd.; Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery; Resident-Manager, Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Musical-Director, Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week (six nights and matinée on Saturday): Mr. Charles Stewart's company in "Ann," including Mr. Charles Stewart, Mr. John Astley, Mr. Cyril Melton, Miss Jane Cooper, Miss Margaret Marshall, and Miss Lilian Ward. Preceded by "The Second Mrs. Grundy," in which appear Mr. Charles Stewart and Miss Hilda Honiss. Next week: "The Whip."

HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Gordon Bostock.—This week: Messrs. Arthur Watson and company first three nights in farcical sketch, entitled "Sprouts," and the the second three nights "The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory." Miss Gertrude Biddy also has a sketch entitled "Bonnie Prince Charlie." Harry Taft has some original songs, and does a good whistling turn. The Two Boyds give a vaudeville entertainment. The Brothers Bright do some marvellous balancing tricks. Victor Courteney is a clever imitator of the banjo and bagpipe. Ryder Slone is a good comedian, and the Bioscope concludes a good bill.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. W. Turner presents, Monday, "Maritana"; Tuesday, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "The Daughter of the Regiment"; Wednesday, "Il Trovatore"; Thursday, "Faust"; Friday, "Don Giovanni"; Saturday, "The Bohemian Girl." The company includes: Miss Kitty Brownless, Miss Ella Vane, Miss Sara Williams, Mr. Frank Clarke, Mr. Seth Hughes, Mr. Sidney Clifford, Mr. J. Kelly, and Mr. T. Yates. Next week: "Aladdin."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Jarrow Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Percy Dawsone.—Pictures are being shown here, and variety is introduced by Le Hurst, ventriloquist; and Bosanquet, the human violin.

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE. — Lessees, The Jersey and Guernsey Amusements Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—This week (once nightly): The Wanas, in gymnastic and potpourri act; Mona Bryan, singer; Field and Smart, in musical speciality; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, The Hippodrome, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. G. S. Holmes.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "A Waltz Dream." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Hearne, Mr. Edwin Brett, Mr. Harry B. Clarke, Mr. Arthur Medwin, Mr. Jack Govan, Mr. Henry Brooke, Mr. Fred Pitt, Mr. Will Hindson, Miss Dorothy Moulton, Miss Josset Ellis, Miss Emmeline Orford, Miss Dorothy Waine, Miss Maude Lancaster, Miss Irene Bradbrook, Miss Maud Vyse, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Hilda Shepherd, Miss Madge Escolme, Miss Hilda Guiver. Next week: "Little Jack Horner."

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Messrs. Thompson Bros.; Manager, Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: Chas. Baron's Burlesque Menagerie; Nell Glyn, comedienne; Charles Beeby, comedian; Adeline Yohle and company in "Difficulties"; and pictures.

PALACE. — Proprietors, The Palace Theatres Company; Manager, Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: Haley's Garden of Girls; the Two Monicas, in musical act; Will and Nell, vocalists and dancers; Burg, Hand, and Wise, pantomimists; and pictures.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer; Musical-Conductor, Mr. J. J. Wright.—For three nights this week a strong variety programme has been presented, the bill including the Omega Trio, the sensational revolving equilibrists; Nora Bray, comedienne; Bell and Dare, patter comedians; Fred Rae, comedian; Dan Doyle, eccentric dancer; and Rose Gower, vocalist.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. C. T. Birch; Manager, Mr. H. Trenley Birch. — This week: First part, closed; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Milestones."

COLONNADE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Plant.—This week: Irma Obasany and her troupe of cockatoo actors; and R. T. Chinn, entertainer. Pictures complete.

ROYAL LEAMINGTON PICTURE PALACE.—This week: Edward Vane, conjurer, etc. Pictures.

ROYAL ASSEMBLY ROOMS. — This week: Learto and his musical dog; and Florina Cody, rifle expert.

LEEDS.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred. W. Wood; Manager and Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush; Musical-Director, Mr. G. W. Jackson.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Levy and Cardwell present "The Sleeping Beauty." The company includes: Mr. Will McGeoch, Miss Marie Lumberg, Mr. Stanley Annison, Mr. Jackson Collis, Mr. Teddy Worth, Miss Nellie Stuart, Miss Lily Parkinson, Miss May Lilian, Mr. Williams, Mr. Alf. E. Rick, Mr. Tom Cowley, Messrs. Hughes and Allen, Miss Kitty Rafferty, and Freddie Hackin. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "An Oath of Vengeance."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred J. Wilson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. John Tiller presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Mary Brougham, Fred Walmsley, George Leavern, Beatrice Grosvenor, Fanny Wallace, Sam Kelly, Will Harrison, Geo. Harrison, Flo Florence, Blanche Garford, Alice Maude, Ethel Negretti. Touring-Manager, Mr. Ivor Harvey. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—Resident-Manager and Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Dottridge and Longden present "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Lily Edwards, Miss Gwen Lewis, Mr. E. Leslie Coupe, Mr. Arnold Richardson, Mr. H. Flockton Foster, Miss Vera Hind, Miss Lilian Mars, Messrs. Elton and Elma, Mr. Charles North, Miss Alice Watling, Mr. Donald Gilbert, Miss Flo Orchard, Miss Agnes Tonge, Mr. John Canadian. Touring-Manager, Mr. Donald Gilbert. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Julian Rose."

VARIETIES CITY PALACE.—Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Fred W. Wood; Manager, Mr. Harry Dunford.—This week (twice nightly): Henry and Liezel, eccentrics; Eddy and Larry Lyle, comedians; Masie Scott, vocalist and comedienne; Penman and Miller, gymnastic comedians; Fields and Lewis, burlesque artistes; the Harey Boys and piano; pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Company Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bibby; Musical-Director, Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—This week (twice nightly): Pertab Sinjh and Zenia, Hindoo magicians, in their "Hindoo Temple of Mystery"; Lillian Silva, comedienne and dancer; Cyrus Dare, mimic and story-teller, and pictures.

SALISBURY PALACE.—Proprietors, The Leek Skating Rink Company, Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; General-Manager, Mr. George Salt; Acting-Manager, Mr. George E. Gough; Musical-Director, Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): Dave Godfrey, humorist and card manipulator, assisted by the charming Deds; Alice Gill, contralto and Tyrolean vocalist; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews; Musical-Director, Herr Theo Klee.—"Jack Horner" is nearing the end of his adventures at this theatre, where Miss Dorma Morgan has made a big hit with her vivacious and clever performance in the title-rôle.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. G. F. Warwick.—This drama house has a most suitable attraction here this week in the sensational drama "Kit Carson," presented by Dottridge, Longden, and Lieli's capable company. Miss Georgette Thierry well maintains her reputation as a clever actress as the widow Norah Patterson, and Mr. John S. Millward in the name part makes a most conspicuous success. Miss Jeannie Weston (Dolly) and Mr. Edward Keith (Peter Merrion) prove most amusing in their parts, and others in the cast to be singled out for special praise are Mr. Chas. H. Longden (Ned Patterson), Miss Marie Longden (Jack Patterson), Miss Cathleen Cavanagh (Annie Poole), Mr. Bernard Lieli (Pedro Pasquale), Mr. Henry Deane (Jim Poole), and Mr. Edward Vivian (Mervyn Fitzroy). The drama has the advantage also of being well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. B. Marris; Musical-Director, Mr. John W. Lowe.—A most welcome return visit is being paid here this week by Bella and Bijou, who, it is needless to say, are having their usual warm welcome extended to them. The Hanlon Bros. and company are also presenting with well-deserved success their pantomimic absurdity "The Haunted Hotel," in which some startling and amusing things happen. The Finney Sisters, the water nymphs, go through the usual performance in a tank and display their smartness in various tricks. Soloworks hard and with the greatest success in his absurdity "A Lesson in Temperance." Alice Craven, the Lancashire comedienne, wins the favour of the audience, and Wilfred Burnand mimics Jack Pleasants and George Formby in a very smart manner. Bi-Bo-Bi gives a capital performance on the bells, and Harry Brown is a happy laughing American black comedian. The Bioscope completes.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Business-Manager, Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Britcher.—Heading this week's "show" is the cowboy drama "All Square," which has all the advantages of being well written, well played, well staged, and well received. Another item that is also popular is Warden Reed and company in "A Day's Racing," a most amusing comedy sketch. The Five Dancing Derbys score in their entertaining harmony and dancing act, and other artistes who also appear with success are Harry Leighton and Sadie Melville, comedy and burlesque artistes; Royde and Villiers, operatic duo; Jack Shevill, comedian; and Maudie Goodman, male impersonator, who deputises for Madie Marsden. The usual excellent pictures are shown.

EMPIRE.—Sole Lessees, the New Bioscope Trading Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas.

Cassim and the latter in the part of the dame, both of whom provoked great laughter. Good support came from Messrs. Freddy French (Ali Baba) and E. J. Barker (the moke), Miss Nelly Rodney (Ganem), Miss Jessie Gerrard (Morgiana), Miss Edith Jefferies (Abdullah), and Miss Ethel Burns (the nurse). Special dances were introduced by the twelve Merry Mascots. The show was an altogether good one.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank Stokes.—Karno's funny sketch, "Perkins in Paris," is here, with Albert Bruno as the amusing Perkins; Beatie and Babs brought their latest, which included the "Rag-time goblin man" and a burlesque on "Il Bacio"; the Carbrey Boys were remarkable simultaneous dancers from America; a very much appreciated musical turn was provided by the Kenneth Lyle quartet; Gene Crowe, a burnt cork comedian, had a lot of funny patter, and showed well as a mimetic ventriloquist; Felix and Fisher presented a sensational comedy acrobatic act; Shields and Rogers were wonderful lasso throwers; and Flo Cecil was favourably received for her catchy songs.

LLANELLY.

HAGGAR'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Haggar, sen.; Manager, Mr. James Haggar.—This week: Charles Barnard presents "The Girl Who Knew a Bit," under the direction of Frank Eden. The company includes: Mr. Frank Lynne and Miss Mabel Coleman.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Longton Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. H. Sherriff Howard.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. Bannister Howard presents "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Mr. Harry Gribben, Miss Nora Martyn, Miss Lucie Caine, Messrs. Tennyson and Wallis, Sisters Huntley, Mr. Bert Madden, Mr. Max Carl, Miss Lillie Leigh, Mr. B. Grendon, Miss Kitty O'Neill, Miss Vera De Witt, Mr. Ben Lean, Miss Eunice Claver, Miss Phyllis Grosvenor, Miss Winifred Brooks, Mr. Wilfred Pitcher, Little Luna Ashley. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "La Mascotte," presented by The Dresden Amateur Operatic Society.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Graham Hylton. This week: The Excelsior Troupe, in a novel and original trick-cycling act; Reardon, Wilson, and Donett, in an up-to-date vocal and dancing act; Harry Witmark, comedian and parody singer; and pictures.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pareezer.—Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri's company are presenting "Cinderella" to large and delighted audiences nightly, this production being by far the best pantomime seen here this season. Miss Maudie Olmar gives a delightful performance in the name part, while the rest of the principals and the chorus do full justice to the pretty and tuneful music and concerted numbers.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—Jack Green and company are appearing in "Daddy's Boy," in addition to Phœbe Fields, La Delbosq, the Rollettes, Lilian Beaumont, Sisters Carlisle, La Albina in "She" (the woman in black). There is also a powerful picture programme.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This week: Mr. Edwin T. Heys' company in "Hindle Wakes." Included in the company are: Mr. W. H. Dewhurst, Miss Beatrice Fielden Kaye, Miss Florence Rutter, Mr. Charles Freeman, Miss Di Forbes, Mr. George Keene, Mr. Frank Howard, Miss Hilda Kenyon, and Miss Ida Warrington.

MAESTEG.

GEM CINEMA.—Lessees, Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. G. F. Knowles.—This week: Hans and Gretta, clever chimpanzees; Carl Osmonde, the nightingale of the West, in "A One-man Duet"; the Seven Muscatels, singers, dancers and whistlers; and pictures.

CINEMA DE LUXE.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Dooner.—This week: Jessie —one, vocalist; Syd Moorhouse, the versatile entertainer; the Dandy Demon; Will Netta's Singing Jockeys, in sporting scena, "At the Races"; and picutres.

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gude.—This week: Miss Grace Warner and company in "The Wages of Sin," "The Little Widow," and "Midnight London."

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—This week: Mr. George Spinks presents the pantomime "Aladdin," and large audiences enjoy the production, which is under the personal direction of Mr. George Egbert. The cast includes: Miss Marie Earle, Miss Lizzie Primmer, Mr. G. Barron, Mr. Gus Ern, Mr. Geo. Payne, Mr. C. W. Brighton, and specialities are introduced by Edwards and Espinosa, Cecil Stafford, Rudger Bann and Irene Pascove, Miss Judith Espinosa having the credit for the arrangement of the pretty dances given.

MANCHESTER.

PRINCE'S.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Garrett Todd.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Leonard Mackay, Mr. Ian Colquhoun, Mr. Walter Adams, Mr. William Spray, Mr. Grafton Williams, Mr. Kelso Henderson, Mr. C. C. Ommanney, Mr. Lauri de Frece, Miss Avice Kelham, Miss Daisy Burrell, Miss Grace Wixon, Miss Evelyn Harding, Miss Berenice Maxwell, and Miss Blanche Tomlin. Touring-Manager, Mr. J. Garrett Todd. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 2 p.m.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Colton.—The Raynor Repertoire Co., a locally popular combination of players, are this week playing here in a succession of attractive pieces, namely: "Jim the Penman," "Caste," "When We Were Twenty-one," and "Moths."

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek; Musical-Director, Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—Mr. H. A. Jordison's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," is proving a strong attraction here. A crowded house on Monday gave the show a hearty welcome. Little Violet Jeans ably fills the title-rôle; Miss Gertrude Sylvester, as Boy Blue, makes a capital principal boy; and the Miss Muffet of Miss Ena Cairns is a charming impersonation. A striking feature of the production is the clever juvenile work of Misses Dollie Cullen and Elsie Jordison, who are Jack and Jill respectively. The comedy is in the capable hands of Messrs. Fred Dunstone, Fred Spencer, Arthur Carthy, Jun., Wm. R. Bennett, J. R. Bennett, and Percy Curry; while specialities are introduced by Jordison's Six Drummer Girls.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Mason.—Drama occupies the boards here this week, in the shape of Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's exciting romantic play, "The Wild Girl of the Forest." The piece is picturesquely staged and efficiently cast, the principal rôles being in the hands of Miss Nana Flensburg as Maritza, and Mr. George E. Butter as Captain Riccardo.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cocks; Musical-Conductor, Mr. R. Hardwick. — The Great Rabottini Rag-time Band is the big feature of the programme here this week, and is a very popular item. Another attractive feature is the vocal and boxing act of Fred Dyer. Bill Howard and Kathryn Harris add a most amusing turn, and other entertaining business is provided by Arthur Lennard, the popular actor-vocalist; the Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio: Mabel Sinclair, lady ventriloquist; Charles Fanning, comedian; Zienat's War Tumblers; and Mlle. Lavina's presentment of Raffin's Flying Trapeze Monkeys.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Musical-Director, Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company are drawing good business here in Mrs. Kimberley's latest successful Western play, "The Prairie Outlaw." Mr. F. B. Woulfe, as Rob Middleton, the title part, gives a strong, heroic rendering; Mr. Ernest Vaughan furnishes a vigorous contrast as Josh Hawkins, the rascally sheriff; and Miss Madge Douglas, as Morita, plays very agreeably a part originally filled by the authoress on its production. Humorous relief is provided by Mr. J. Russell Bogue as Happy Happy, and Mr. Geo. Scully, who makes quite a hit as Black Pete.

KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. R. Trippett; Musical-Director, Mr. David L. Booth. — Mr. J. Car Kiddie's pantomime, "Little Bo-Peep," seen at this popular house, has all the qualities that go to ensure success. Miss Marion Fern, as the dashing Boy Blue," is prettily supported by Miss Lizzie Payne as Little Bo-Peep; Miss Gladys Clare makes a charming Fairy Moonbeam; clever work is put in by the Sisters Vernon as Lord de Rhino and Margery Daw; and plenty of entertaining comedy of the right kind is assiduously forthcoming from Messrs. Harry Ugar as Ganny Brown, Harry Talbot as Baron Hardup, Foley and Francis as Johnny Stout and Jimmy Green, Owen and Wills as the Baron's Pages, and Hall Stern as Rastus Brown, the black cook.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. Peter Watson; Secretary and Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Musical-Director, Mr. T. H. Gaggs. — Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime of "Cinderella" is meeting with deserved approval here. Miss Winifred Ray, as Prince Elegant, makes an excellent principal boy, and a dainty Cinderella is seen in Miss Bessie Burke. Much fun is provided by Mr. Will Wynne as the Baron de Noodle, Mr. Victor Knight as Pip, the page, Messrs. Fred Pullan and Syd Howard as the Ugly Sisters, and Messrs. Nash and Noel as Knipp and Knapp, the bailiffs; while notable features of the production are Harwood's Harmonising Sextet, and the clever vocal and dancing contributions of Miss Dolly Crown as Maudie.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry; Musical-Conductor, Mr. Alfred Haines.—Big houses are the rule here, the main attraction being the appearance of Miss Marie Studholme in a really excellent sketch, "Her Ladyship," written by Harry Grattan, which is admirably played. Capt. Woodward's performing Sea Lions are also prominently appreciated; while other outstanding turns are given by the famous Craggs, the premier acrobats; and Coram, the popular ventriloquist. Other good turns are contributed by the Rawsons, entertainers; Charles Carr, vocalist; Van der Koors, the quack illusionist; and Jean's magic problem, "The Silver Hat," a notice of which appears elsewhere.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred. Dry; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry Walker.—Messrs. James A. and Herbert B. Jewel provide a big attraction here in "Change," a clever comedy drama in four lightning changes; a most interesting and novel act. Harry Champion, the quick and quaint comedian, scores as usual; Renee D'Astre is a pleasing comedienne and expert acrobatic dancer; Belle Sylvia charms with well-rendered, taking songs; the Five Poncherrys go through an amazing wire act of great merit; the O'Malleys are a laughter-making couple who make a hit; and Burr and Retter give a clever and funny eccentric acrobatic performance. Pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Musical-Director, Mr. George Neilson.—The top lines here are Fred Russell and Lillian Held, a magnetic duo of American entertainers, who bring the house down. Jack Egan and his Do-la Girls are rag-timers of considerable ability; the Three Lawtons score in a delightful vocal and musical act; and Jane Ayr, a miniature Miss Margaret Cooper, makes a decided hit at the piano. Other enjoyable items are offered by Bertha May, contralto vocalist; the Donlos, contortionists; Douglas K. Lorne, light comedian; and Rose Costa, comedienne and mimic, well received. Ruffell's up-to-date pictures complete.

ALHAMBRA, OPENSHAW. — Lessees, the Alhambra, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur S. Evanson; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Harney.—Here Signor Arvi, the Italian illusionist, presents the great Arvi Mystery, in which music, science, and art are beautifully blended. A most enjoyable and artistic performance. Other smart turns are provided by the Halle Four in speciality, "Moonlight on the Water," and "The Nightingale and the Blackbird"; the Bros. St. John in music, dance, and story; Belle and Austin, in amusing act, "A Fatal Rehearsal"; Charles Gould, patter comedian; Edmanson, introducing Jerry, the Incorrigible; the Three Dancing Duggans; and Davis and Dean, comedians. A good all-round programme, twice nightly.

LESLIE'S PAVILION, RUSHOLME.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Phillips.—This week (once nightly): Herr Wilhelm Morgann and his Blue Hungarian Band; Charles Wade, bass baritone; and pictures. Next week: George Royle and his Fol de Rols.

KING'S HOTEL, OXFORD-ROAD.—R. Davies, Proprietor.

MANSFIELD.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—This week: Mr. Alexander Marsh's company in Shakespearean and standard plays. The company includes: Messrs. Alexander Marsh, Wilson Gunning, Ian Fleming, Henry Oscar, J. Edwards, Edwin Beverley, George Asquith, W. Edward Stirling, Leonard Trollope, Edmund Tennant, A. G. Fenn, James Grant, Frank J. Fay, Edward Jones, Henry Edwin, Chowey Thorne, Henry Vickers, Misses Carrie Baillie, May Grimshaw, Agnes Gagan, Hilary Sturdy, Dora Mason, Sheila Ross, Freda Fay, Kathleen Batty.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Mansfield, Sutton and District Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Capt. Cecil Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Lantree.—This week: Lock and Glen; Lucie Prunella, the Neapolitan minstrel girl; Harry Greenlaw, comedian; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Irving and Jasmine, in comedy act; May Newall, vocalist, and pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Alexander J. Haviland presents "The Price of Silence." The company includes: Mr. Alexander J. Haviland, Mr. Geo. Edwin Clive, Mr. Herbert Vere, Mr. Harry Colbeck, Mr. Edward Ashworth, Mr. Castello Williams, Mr. Stephen Markley, Mr. Frank Forest, Mr. Herbert Wright, Mr. Tom Russell, Miss Joan Harcourt, Miss Amber Wyville, Miss Phyllis Vaughan. Touring-Manager, Mr. Alex. J. Haviland. Next week: "Milestones."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall. — This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "Facing the Music." The company includes: Mr. Chas. Groves, Mr. Louis Palgrave, Mr. Keith J. Shepherd, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. J. Watkin Wynne, Miss J. Middleton, Miss Beatrice Marsden, May Edward Saker, and Miss Russell Spiers. Touring-manager, Mr. Keith J. Shepherd.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: "Hindle Wakes," presented by Mr. Max Allen. The company includes: Mr. J. Milne Taylor, Miss Ethel Hardacre, Miss Betty Fairfax, Mr. Hodgson Taylor, Miss Bessie Bedford, Mr. Keith Kenneth, Mr. Christopher Steele, Miss Gladys Lloyd, and Miss Margaret Anderson.

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—General-Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—This week (twice nightly): Bros. Carpatii, bar gymnasts; Daisy Graham's Troupe of Performing Birds, etc.; Ruby Rowe, comedienne; Paget Trio, concertina experts; Ralia and Memphis, speciality dancers; Ted Saunders, mimic; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

HIPPODROME.— Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight.—This week: Mr. Fred Le Cren's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." The company includes: Miss Adah Le Cren, Miss Lily Hill, Miss Lily Ward, Mr. Leslie Crossley, the Oxos, Mr. James Walters, Mr. W. A. Scott, Miss K. Gannon, Miss M. Hughes, Miss C. Leslie, Miss Lily Burdon, Mr. H. Le Cren, Mr. Jas. Ritchie, Miss K. Palmer, Miss N. Byrne, Miss N. Clarke, Miss G. Raymond, Miss M. Wain, Miss C. Ritchie, Miss A. Reid, Miss Dorothy Kemp.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace (Mexborough), Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Beverley; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur E. White.—This week (twice nightly): Abel and Wyn, in comedy act; the Jumels, in musical act; pictures. Matinée, Tuesday morning, 10.30. Picture matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. C. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—This week: "Aladdin," presented by Mr. Imeson.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Manager, Mr. G. Imeson.—This week: "Leah Kleschna," by Mr. S. R. Squires' company, which includes: William Clayton, Jack Harris, H. Bonhote Wilson, Gerton Ashaid, Charles Paige Lawrence, William Scriven, Tom McCaffrey, Frank Darley, Ralph Ingilby, Annie Rogers, Ada Tinsley, Marie Florence, Bertha Spofforth, Nan Appleton, and Emmie Clayton.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Parker.—This week: Mr. Fred Edwards and company in "Kleptomaniacs"; Lena Bluette, vocalist; Hillier and Haynes, in their American reel; Frank Le Dent, juggler; Fred Poplar, comedian; Karl and Eddie, pianists; Martyn Roland and company in "What Every Woman Should Know."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Thompson; Manager, Mr. S. Gibson.—This week: John Earl, the hatedian; Captain and Mme. George present their elephants and ponies; and pictures.

NEATH.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Noice.—This week (once nightly): Mrs. Frank Bateman presents, Monday and Tuesday, "The King and the Orange Girl"; Wednesday and Thursday, "Sapho"; Friday, "She Gave Her Life." The company includes: Mr. Fred W. Goddard, Mr. Harry Aynsleigh, Mr. Charles Adeson, Mr. R. Monteigle, Mr. E. Went, Mr. George Leslie, Mr. Percy Shaw, Mr. Frank Webber, Mr. H. Osborne, Mr. Hill Cremer, Mr. P. Cavanna, Miss Grace Hooper, Miss May Language, Miss Maud Taylor, Miss Marion Vyner, Miss Camille Treherne, Miss Lillian Lovell, Mrs. Frank Bateman. Next week: "The Girl Who Knew a Bit."

GNOLL HALL.—Proprietors, The Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Musical-Director, Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Jenkins Brothers, acrobats; Len Keppel, American entertainer; the Three Royal Matsis, Japanese entertainers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Gilley; General-Manager, Mr. A. Brogden.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Sisters Ruby, acrobats and dancers; Bert Danson, burlesque comedian; Rennie and Roxburgh, in musical act; and pictures.

NELSON.

GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. H. S. Parker.—This week the "Pet of the Ranch" is here. The company includes: Mr. A. J. Hicks, Mr. Geo. Flood, Mr. Elgar Morgan, Mr. Chas. D. Pitt, Miss Harold Bell, Miss Iza Lyndon, Miss Ella Macklin, Miss Grace Jones, and Miss Marjory Seymour.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. S. Livesey.—This week (twice nightly): "Little Jack Horner." The company includes: Etty Waldron, Mamie Ellis, Ada Sinclair, May Dinsdale, Billy Waldron, and specialities by the Waldrons, the Royal Temple, Doyle and Massey, and Baby Sinclair.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. The Robert Arthur's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham. — "The Pink Lady" is paying another visit to Tyneside, and is drawing crowded houses.

TYNE THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; Manager, Mr. Fred. C. Sutcliffe.—The pantomime, "Old King Cole," is going stronger than ever, and the bookings are phenomenal.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. E. Linney.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Roxbury presents "Jack and the Beanstalk." The company includes: Jack McKenzie, Teddy Stream, Jack Clarke, F. Lloyd Gwynne, the Wagners, Clara Davine, Betty Hay, Henry Prenton, T. E. Morris, Winnie Dale, Rosie Wagner, Gracie Roxbury, Ethel Davies, Mabel Mander, Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton.—The pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," which was written, arranged, and produced by Mr. Henry Curwen, at Sunderland, is the attraction here this week. Miss Victoria Carmen, in the title-rôle, is responsible for much of the success of the production, being an actress of exceptional merit, and possessed of a handsome figure and a sweet and cultured voice. The chief comedian, Mr. H. Griffiths, is an admirable Dame, and is ably assisted in amusing by Mr. Will Lindsay and Mr. Arthur Aiston. The minor parts are all capably filled.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Manager, Mr. J. W. Kilgour; Musical-Director, Mr. J. W. Dawson.—This week: Whit Cunliffe, light comedian; Spiegler, Hungarian violinist and his quintette of instrumentalists and musicians; Sammy Shields, the football maniac; La Pia, in a terpsichorean speciality, "The Spirit of the Waves"; Roland Bros., classical dancers; Little Ena Dayne, juvenile artiste; Millie Doris, in her success, "The Hot Cross Bun"; Torcat, assisted by Mlle. Flor D'Aliza, presenting the only troupe in the world of trained roosters; Weston and Lynch, American comedy duo, presenting "The Fainting Girl"; and pictures.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, the Pavilion (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur E. Breakwell.—This week (twice nightly): Philip Braham presents "The March Hares," including Mr. Davy Burnaby. Moran and Wiser, hat throwers; Walter Lintone, concertina soloist; Rogers and Keezing, Hebrew comedians; Saltley and His Nibs; Matt. Greevey, jumper, the Nine Dainty Dots; Lievin and Pantzer; pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Puss in Boots."

PALACE THEATRE. — This week (twice nightly): Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson presents "The Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment." The company includes: Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, Mr. Sydney A. Monckton, Mr. Stanley W. Healey, Mr. Walter Parks, Mr. C. H. Henderson, Mr. S. Parkinson, Mr. J. B. Lewis, Mr. Cyril Harrison, Mr. Willie Hicks, Mr. Fred Connel, Miss Laurie Adair, Miss Tessa Myers, Miss Mysie Monte, Miss Alice Barber. Next week: "Dick Whittington."

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This week: "Little Miss Llewelyn" was admirably staged and acted by Mr. Edmund Gwenn and Miss Hilda Trevelyan's company of Welsh players. The company includes: Mr. Sydney Evans, Mr. Harding Thomas, Mr. Gareth Hughes, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Owen Pryce, Mr. Jeffrey Hopkins, Mr. Edward Jones, Mr. Arthur Edgar, Mr. Hugh Robinson, Miss Evelyn Evans, Miss Louie Williams, Miss Eleonor Daniels, and Miss Jennie Roberts. "Little Miss Llewelyn" was preceded by a bright and breezy curtain-raiser, "A Girl in Every Port," in which the characters were ably sustained by Miss Eleonor Daniels, Miss Aime Froude, Miss Lucky Robins, and Mr. Edward Jones. Next week: "The Quaker Girl."

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter T. Simmons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week (twice nightly): Ben Albert, comedian; Elsie Blanche, vocalist; Arthur Woodville, light comedian; Spry and Monti, comedy couple; Les Andrés, in dancing speciality; Effie White, in her kaleidoscopic dances; the dramatic comedy, "1,000 to 1 Against"; and pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Fred J. Little presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Mr. Alf. Brookes, Miss Lillian De Venny, Miss Edie Anderson, Miss Lola Estelle, Miss Connie Moore, Miss M. Seymour, Mr. Pat Nash, Miss Lilly Langtry, Mr. C. D. Reekie, Mr. Charles B. Hargreaves, Staffo, Mr. Leslie Digby, Messrs. Charlie and Will Boriski. Touring-Manager, Mr. Frank Ayrton. Matinée, Saturday at 2 p.m. Next week: "The Arcadians."

BORO' THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Black Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Gibson; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Riddsdale.—This week (twice nightly): Alberto Bob and company in cowboy sketch, "A Rustler's Reformation"; the Lowell Brothers, Continental musical clowns; Carlos Menard, violinist and novelty musician; and pictures.

NORTHWICH.

NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; Manager, Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur W. Parry. — This week: Conn and Conrad, in eccentric and sensational feats, "Up the Pole"; Fred Hunt, comedian; John Lord, the musical collier; Nellie Ormonde, vocalist; Gicardo, backward juggler; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan. — This week: Milton Bode's grand pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," written by J. Hickory Wood. The following are included in the cast: Messrs. Bert Moreland, Bert Maddison, Jess Sweet, G. J. Chapman, Robert Daly, Bert Terrell, and Fred Miller, Mesdames Nan Chester, Aimee Grey, Nellie Coombes, Maisie Dene, and Phyllis Lock, Melrose and Gill. Mr. C. F. Trevor ably conducts. Two matinées, Thursday and Saturday at 2.30.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—The programme this week includes: the following artistes: Miss Beth Tate, the Californian girl; Niagara and Falls, comedy duo; Cougelli, society mimic; Edward H. Lucas and daughter Edna in scenes from Dickens; Three Cape Girls, comediennes and long-boot dancers; George Prince, the crazy comedian; the Five X-Rays, mad athletes; and pictures. Twice nightly; matinée on Saturday, at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—The variety this week are Les Bon Bons and Syd George, comedian and patterer. Matinée on Saturday, 2.30.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. F. Allen.—The artistes here this week are Hurl and Ford, comedians; and Miss Elsa Joel, the Australian nightingale.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney; Musical-Director, Mr. John Armstrong.—"Cinderella" still forges ahead in her prosperous career, enjoying and fully deserving the many felicitous things said of her exquisite scenery, charming music, and continuous flow of jollity.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Frank Seabrook; Musical-Director, Mr. Sydney Twinn.—The final curtain will ring down to-night on "Dick Whittington" amidst the applause and regret of patrons, thanks to the energy and clever work of Misses Flora Cora, Lottie Cora, Minnie Scott, Dorothy Royal, Anna Hastings, Mona Gray, and Messrs. Billy Amstell, Fred Colley, Harry Bruce, Mount Truro, Freddy Wolgast, Herbert Burton, Alfred Arno, and the Kenna Brothers, who will long be remembered as a bright and happy combination. Mr. Frank Seabrook is to be congratulated on his first essay here in pantomime.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Musical-Director, Mr. W. L. Richards.—The morality play, "Everybody," with its simple but telling story, is being capitally played by an excellent cast, including Mr. Martin Lewis in the name-part, Miss Winifred Bransby-Williams as Luck and Fortune, and Miss Violet Blyth-Pratt as Pleasure. The Scottish humour of Peter Donald and Meta Carson finds a ready response of merry laughter, while the antics of Campbell and Barber, on cycles, are gleefully recognised. Frank H. Fox brings some new and diverting songs, and the Four Vagabonds provide pleasant harmony with an admirable mixture of fun. Robert Riley's Irish songs add to the hilarity, and the tricks of Austen Temple are made more entertaining by his smart witticisms.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Nottingham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Stanhope Butler, jun.; Musical-Director, Mr. John Holman. — A delightful protean entertainment is given by Charlotte Parry in a drama entitled "The Comstock Mystery," wherein this clever artiste impersonates several widely diversified characters. Jake Friedman's burlesque on opera keeps the house in merry mood. Hearty appreciation greets Buck Baker and company in the playlet "Pete, the Sheriff." The Two Butterflies are expert trapeze artistes and smart dancers, and the Vagges show their nimbleness in ball-punching. Capital turns are also provided by Lawson and O'Dell, in comedy acts; Little Sunbeam, dancer; and Sam Williams, comedian.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Morton Powell's company in "From Mill Girl to Millionairess." The company includes: Miss Patty Hastings, Miss Florence Hamilton, Miss Emily Huby, Miss Irene Carrington, Miss Lizzie Lennon, Miss Mabel Roselle, Mr. W. H. Porter, Mr. Frederick W. Freeman, Mr. J. A. Hybert, Mr. Richard Webb, Mr. Western Beecher, Mr. C. H. L. Locke, Mr. E. R. Shrewed, Mr. Albert Sangar, Master G. Blaze, Mr. P. Clay, Miss Annie May, Miss Lucy Lauder, Miss Marion Mason.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME. — Lessee, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—This week: Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi Troupe; Les Cycluminas; the renowned Mozarts; and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietors, Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme. — This week (twice nightly): Mr. J. Newton Cowling presents "The Collier's Lass." The company includes: Mr. Henry Rutland, Mr. J. Dobson Clyde, Mr. Denbigh J. Douglas, Mr. William H. Melrose, Mr. Edward Mackenzie, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Easterbrook, Mr. George Loreno, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Lyna Darlington, Miss Ellen Beverley, Miss Mona Gray, Miss Nina Blake-Adams. Touring-Manager, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.15. Next week: "Allah's Orchard."

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kilrow. — This week (once nightly): Mr. D. Forbes Russell presents "The Prisoner of Zenda." The company includes: Arthur Gibbons, J. Warriss Lindon, Seaton Dane, Edmund Blake, Lionel Yaldwin, Claud Allister, Gerald Alexander, Harold Taylor, Fred D. Daviss, J. Frere Vernon, George Wyley, Reginald Ives, Philip Rolfe, Walter Bramley, Winifred Gamble, Kitty Crichton, Dorothy Overend. Touring-Manager, Mr. Reginald Faber. Next week, "Miss Hook of Holland."

PALACE.—Proprietors, The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmund Sharrocks; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry O'Callaghan.—This week (twice nightly): Lady Little; Christie Mansell, vocalist; Cestria, comedy juggler; Reg. Wentworth, comedy artist; Three Bros. Riegels; the Vays, in "Life in Slums"; Billy Rhodes, comedian; The Two Vivians, sharp shooters; and pictures.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE. — Proprietors, the Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Dobie; Cicerone and Lecturer, Mr. Harry Young. — This week: Miss Sylvia Cavalho and company in "A Visitor from Venus"; the Royal Merry Four, harmonising comedians; Wee Kitty Masters, the pocket Vesta Tilley; the Bros. Leotard, comedy hat throwers; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Gaston. — This week: Charles Gaston in illustrated song scena; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Dixon.—This week: Fred Dixon, comedian; and pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE. — Proprietors The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.—This week (once nightly): For three nights, Philip Braham's company, the Grotesques. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Find the Woman."

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Leyton and Seddon; Manager, Mr. P. Leonard.—This week (twice nightly): Kitty Wilmore and company in "The Battle of Sunflower Lodge"; Emile Gaelens; the Four Stanlinis, in "Musical Moments"; Edie Phillips, comedienne; Tom Pearson, who gives an excellent performance as a whistling comedian and bird mimic; Bright and Sultan, comedy artistes; Jack Gibbs, comedian and dancer; and pictures.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—This week (once nightly), Monday, Tu

sell, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. F. W. Bowes, Mr. C. F. Cooke, Mr. Stafford Dickens, Mr. Griffin Campion, Mr. Cecil Moylan, Mr. Philip Cooper, Miss Rosa Burchell, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Dagmar Dargue, Miss Ethel Oliver. Touring-Manager, Mr. Bay Russell.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jack R. Bostock; Musical-Director, Mr. Thomas Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Anita, the world's smallest lady; Sandy McNab, Scotch comedian, in his novel and funny sketch, "King Pharaoh"; James Houston and company, in the Scotch comedy sketch, "The Best Man"; the Four Curtis, juvenile dancers; J. W. Darley and company, in absurdity, "The Giles in Town"; Phemie McCall, juvenile vocalist and dancer; Ethel Bourne, contralto vocalist; and pictures.

PEMBROKE DOCK.

WHITE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Alf Shirley.—This week: Mr. Ernest Chas. Gittins presents his operatic company in condensed versions of "Daughter of the Regiment," "Maritana," and "Bohemian Girl." The company includes: Mlle. Vera Vizard, prima donna; Miss Rachael Williams, contralto; Mr. W. E. Rouselle, baritone; Mr. Ernest Chas. Gittins and Mr. Nicholas Johnson, tenors; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday at 3.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Thomas.—On Friday and Saturday next the F. R. Benson Shakespearean company (South) is here presenting "The Merchant of Venice" and "Othello." The company includes: Henry Baynton, Lawrence Cecil, J. T. Heline, Arthur Keane, George Manship, Leonard Parish, F. J. Richardson, Douglas Rubery, Herbert Smith, Jack Twyman, Kenneth Wicksteed, Kate Turner, Hilda Dene, Rosalind Grey, Mollie Lloyd, Joan Parminter, and Violet Wilkinson.

PENTRE.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. W. E. Willis; Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—This week: The Great Carmo in his mysteries and creations; Wright Aitken and selected company in "The Battle of Life"; the famous Flying Julians, in a clever gymnastic act; the Dalgarnos, in a comedy skit, "Caught Napping"; Arthur Savory, light comedian; and Fritz Kling, the musical tramp. Matinée, Tuesday, 11.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Salway; Musical-Director, Mr. Joe Leslie; Operator, Mr. Harry Newman.—This week (twice nightly): The Falcons, in a comedy acrobatic act; Ted Cowan, the quaint comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, 11.

PENZANCE.

ST. JOHN'S HALL.—Messrs. A. J. Rogers and Son, the local theatrical agents, secured Alban B. Limpus's company in "Bella Donna," which was presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard here on Monday evening. The company included: Messrs. Escott Robson, Stanley Yourke, Frank Manners, Edmund Sydney, Vere Denys, W. H. Preston, A. Whitbread, G. O'Connell, the Misses Enid Ross, Kathleen Mortimer, and May Sutton, with Mr. Gordon Starkey as General-Manager.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Cornish Rivieria Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Frederic Dale.—On Tuesday evening a large and appreciative audience enjoyed an excellent concert by the following artistes: Messrs. Watkin Mills and Charles Saunders, the Misses Enneta Truscott, Joan Ashley, Dorothea Walwyn (violin), with Mr. Percival Garratt at the piano. On Friday afternoon the second symphony concert was announced, followed in the evening by a concert from the Royal Artillery Band. Next week: The Sparks.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Burrows; Resident-Manager, Mr. Dick Trembath.—This week: Mme. Nevers, Mlle. Sareina, and Capt. J. Hendrickson, with their forty animals; and pictures.

CINEMA.—Manager, Mr. G. S. Ramsey.—This week: Pictures.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, J. H. Savile; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Boult.—This week: for the first three nights, Mr. Herbert Ralland, by arrangement with Mr. George Edwardes, presented "The Girl in the Train"; and on the three succeeding nights, "The Glad Eye." The company for "The Girl in the Train" included: Mr. Bay Russell, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. F. W. Bowes, Mr. C. F. Cooke, Mr. S. Dickens, Mr. Griffin Campion, Mr. Cecil Moylan, Mr. Philip Cooper, Miss Rosa Burchell, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Dagmar Dargue and Miss Ethel Oliver. Next week the pantomime "Aladdin" for six nights and matinée.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley.—This week: Mr. Geo. Brydon Phillips' company in "Puss in Boots." The company includes: Mr. J. Harry Maxam, Mr. Jack Lennol, Mr. Clive Watts, Messrs. Dennis and Morris, Mr. W. Olsen, Mr. D. Powell, Miss Gladys Erskine, Miss Nan Nelbur, Miss Grace Ingram, Miss Marie Beaufort, Miss Hazel Glade, and Mr. John Roker.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Hawkins and Frank.—This week: Peakman and Walsh, in "The Waiter and the Dude"; Rosie Blundell, dainty comedienne and dancer; Paul Masson, baritone; Jack Toler and his talented dogs, Lady and Spike; Anna Bell, in her song-scena, "The Boys' Brigade"; Henriette and Selina, society entertainer; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Director, Mr. J. M. Glover; Acting-Manager, Mr. Allan Attwater.—This week: "Jack and Jill." The company includes: Miss Connie Emerald, Miss Daisy West-Collins, Mr. Walter Dowling, Mr. Bert Monks, Miss Rosalind Chard, Mr. Ernest French, the Sisters Holman, Miss Winsome Drummond, Mr. Freric Le Maitre, Mr. A. H. Reid, Miss Margaret Lynhart, Miss Evelyn Tyser, Mr. Sam Leo, and specialities by the Creo Brothers.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomime, "Mother Goose." The company includes: Frank H. Morton, Zeta Murdoch, Kitty Russell, Cissie Esdaile, Rosa Bartlett, Irene Millard, Fred Acton, the Lemairs, F. Robinson, Day and Deen, Madeline Dore, Nellie Tomlinson, M. Douglas, Violet Brown, J. W. Gallagher, and Walter Dale. Specialities by Day and Deen, the Lemairs, Sydney T. Russell's Eight Sydney Girls. Matinées, Saturday, Jan. 25, and Feb. 1, at 2.30.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: Barclay Gammon; Millie Jillson, comedienne and dancer; Harry Fields, in "The Pro.'s Smoking Concert"; Victor and Velma, the college boy athlete and the Sandow girl; J. F. Ellison presents the Meymotts, supported by Miss R. Wilsmith, in a new comedy playlet, "In the Future"; Mascot, the most wonderful horse in the world; the Three Brothers Hunter, American eccentrics; and Nixon Grey, the zig-zag comedian.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—This week (once nightly), Saturday (twice nightly): Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond present "For Wife and Kingdom." The company includes: Mr. Julian J. Gallier, Mr. Reginald T. Fox, Mr. Charles H. Gallier, Mr. Cecil A. Melton, Mr. Fred Osmond, Mr. T. Varney, Mr. Robert Mann, Mr. Henry Smythe, Mr. D. Dunlop, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. Harold Goodyier, Miss Lilian Malvern, Miss Alice Buckland, Miss Louise Millward, Miss Elaine Vanbrugh, Miss Margaret Hobart. Touring-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Gallier.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard. — Mr. George Bowes presents "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" here this week. The company includes: Miss Emmie King, Miss Sadie Fern, Miss Ethel Mavis, the Four Scoreys, Trix and Trixie (dancers), Mavis and Mavis (duettists and dancers), Palmyra (the elastic lady and her musicians), the Original Roneos (in novelty dances), Les Zeimars (hand balancers), Little Tom Doddy (in funniosities).

WHITE'S PALACE. — Proprietors, White Palaces, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert R. Josty.—This week: Mr. Ethelbert Stanley, elocutionist; and pictures.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. John G. Wood; Resident-Manager, Mr. Mason.—This week: The American Glee Singers; and pictures.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Will Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth; Musical-Director, Mr. Geo. Stephens.—This week: Miss Cecilia Dare and company in "Sowing the Wind." "She Stoops to Conquer." "Mother of Three," and "The Woman of Cronstadt." The company includes: Mr. Conrad Waygood, Mr. Geo. Wallace, Miss Milly Doyle, Mr. Leslie Cudd, and Miss Adela Harvey.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Mr. Elliston's panto., "Jack and Jill," which has achieved such well-merited success, is in its fifth and concluding week.

KING'S. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—A varied entertainment is presented this week. Opera has its exponents in Constance Balfour, William Saville, and Dillon Shallard, excerpts from Gounod, Verdi and Wagner, being exceptionally well rendered. Rag-time was melodiously presented by the Eight American Ragtimers. Alfred Toose's American company, including Bertram Burleigh, Gerald Earle, and Agnes McCarthy, cleverly played "The Better Man." Miss Marquis's stud of trained ponies attracted great attention. Other delightful turns are: Melita Silva, with songs and dances; Francois' Wonderful Midgets; Dewson at the piano; and the Four Langinos, eccentrics; and, last, but not least, the musical clown, Paul Corwey.

PRINCES'.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.—"White as a Lily," a new drama direct from London, and produced by a capable company under Mr. Charles Barnard, is the attraction at the Princes', and the thrilling story replete with human interest proved highly popular. The principal characters are well sustained, and the scenic effects are excellent.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—After some weeks of pantomime the entertainment reverts to vaudeville this week with Miss Maude Tiffany topping the bill. As an exponent of rag-time she is difficult to equal. Sam Mayo is an old favourite here, and is as popular as ever; Nina Gordon received great applause for her imitation of various stars of vaudeville and concert fame. The Symphony Girls, Ernest Mills, the Max Franklin Troupe, and Phil and Nettie Peters are worthy of praise.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Capt. E. H. Warren Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Audiences seemingly never tire of being mystified, and those at the above certainly have plenty to conjure with in the novelty which is being presented with a wealth of oriental drapery and setting by Mlle. Palermo, a charming mystic, and Signor Chefalo, assisted by a numerous company, in a picturesque scena, "The Garden of Mystery." The talented low comedienne, Jessie Danvers, plays the comedy-drama of East and West End life, "The End of the Story." The Four Tresillians perform some sensational gymnastic and acrobatic feats. And others that have good receptions include Guitanos and his clever dog; Jean Roby; the Five Bombays; Fred Shepherd; and Thomas Cullen, the Irish nightingale.

CLARENCE PIER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. Cuddy.—To-day's concerts are provided by Miss Ada Forrest, Mr. Henry Turnpenny, the string band of the Royal Garrison Artillery, and Mr. Percy Ramsey, accompanist.

SOUTH PARADE PIER. — Manager for the Corporation, Mr. F. G. Robson. — Mr. Joseph Blascheck, Australian humorist; and Miss Mildred Wrighton, soprano vocalist, are the entertainers this week.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week: Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "Ben-Hur." The company includes: Mr. Cecil Tresillian, Mr. Horace Ferley, Mr. Charles Smythe, Mr. Philip Desborough, Mr. Hatton Sinclair, Mr. Edward Valentine, Mr. Douglas Vigors, Mr. Walter Underwood, Mr. Vivian Harbord, Mr. G. Waller, Mr. R. James, Mr. Chas. Maverne, Mr. Eric Fane, Mr. Francis King, Mr. Jack Glyn, Mr. Fred Vernon, Mr. Arthur Walter, Miss Edith Blande, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Eva Rowland, Miss Elizabeth Watson, and Miss Eileen Atherley. Matinée, Thursday. Next week: "A Waltz Dream."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert J. Dolton.—This week: Mr. Harry Joseph's company in "Dick Whittington" pantomime. The company includes: Miss Alma Lorene, Miss Rita Royne, Miss Rosie Dent, Miss Maie Forest, Miss Jennie Ray, Miss Nellie Merrie, Miss Edie Clark, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Pauline Cornish, Miss Ada Walker, Miss Toots Desmond, Miss Rose Sayers, Miss Tess Jones, Miss Floss Bankes, Miss Annie Rounds, Miss Rene Willoughby, Mr. Ted E. Rose, Mr. Reg. Heaton, Mr. Will Dale, Mr. L. Hampton, Mr. Will Elton, Mr. Bert Elton, Mr. Joe Hayman, Mr. J. Houten, Mr. Ern Moore, Mr. Frankland-Grey. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett; Musical-Director, Mr. Robert Peel.—This week: John Tiller's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." The company includes: Miss Florrie Page, Miss Olitzka Madison, Miss May Sharples, Miss Laura Vane, Mr. Jimmie Pullin, Mr. Joe Dawson, Mr. Arthur Ricketts, Mr. Jack Audley, Mr. Billy Daynes, Mr. Sidney Rennef, Mr. Tom Gott, the Ten Merry Mites, the Four Lotus Girls, etc. Twice nightly, and matinées Monday and Saturday.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edwin Bush; General-Manager, Mr. Alan W. Young; Musical-Director, Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week: Serene Nord and her diving girls; the Four Charles, juggling and acrobatic act; Datas, the human encyclopædia; l'Impossible Griff, the juggling jester; Hyde and Cody Trio, in "Jack o' Both Sides"; Alf Gibson, the popular comedian; Hector and Loletta, Italian equilibrists; Carl Muller, long-boot expert; and the Bioscope. Twice nightly and Monday matinée.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Testo Sante; Manager, Mr. R. Vaughan.—This week (once nightly): "Dick Whittington and His Cat." The company includes: Mr. William Matheson, Miss Kathleen Emmett, Miss Kathleen Grey, Miss Vi Laurie, Mr. Sam Thompson, Mr. Charles Diamond, Mr. Harry Farrow, Julian, Schweppe Bros., Les Raymonds, Mr. Harold Perry, Miss Jessie Cameron, Miss Gladys Wyse. Matinée, Saturday.

RAMSGATE.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole-Lessee, Mr. W. J. Attack; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—This week: Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Clara Moore, Miss Edna Deno, Miss Lily Arthur, Miss Fanny Bass, Mr. George Rance, Miss Amy Wright, the Brothers Obo, Miss Beatrice Howard, and Mr. Tom E. Sloan.

KING'S.—Manager, Mr. R. V. Crow.—This week (twice nightly): The Poyolas, acrobats; Mack Ollive, in whistling scena, "The Candy Store," from "The Belle of New York"; Charles Denton, comedian; Martin Henderson, blind musician; and pictures.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Archibald L. Pareezer.—This week: Mr. Evelyn A. Dell's No. 1 company in "The Old Home." The company includes: Miss Amy Dalby, Miss Harriet Loydall, Miss Ethel Ashleigh, Mr. Cliffe Astley, Mr. Chas. Franmore, Mr. F. Brown, and Mr. Evelyn A. Dell.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—This week (once nightly, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday), Miss Julia Neilson presents: "Sweet Nell of Old Drury." The company includes: Mr. H. Humberston Wright, Mr. Dennis J. Hogan, Mr. Henry Hewitt, Mr. Bellenden Clarke, Mr. Alfred Kendrick, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Arthur Applin, Mr. Leslie Gordon, Mr. James Carter-Edwards, Mr. Alec Rhaden, Mr. Horace Hodges, Mr. J. R. Collins, Mr. George Dudley, Mr. Telford Hughes, Master Edward Dennie, Miss Violet Farebrother, Miss Betty Bellairs, Miss Molly Terraine, Miss Winifred Rae, and Miss Julia Neilson. Touring-manager, Mr. Arthur Garrett. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Mr. Philip Braham presents the Grotesques. The company includes: Vivian Foster, Harry Hilliard, Hugh Bayly, Ivan Campbell, Irene Greville, Ethel Spencer, Marjory Blythe, and Albert Simmer, in musical mixtures and their famous burlesque "The Village Concert." Touring-manager, Mr. Marcon Evans. Next week: "Dick Whittington."

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): Charlie Bell and company, in "The Photographer"; Peter and Potts, comedians; the Brandons, in musical comedy act; the Nicoletos, fantastic equilibristic trio; Brull and Hemsley, in "Uraliar 2"; Camilla Feo, vaudeville artiste; Charles Kelvin, baritone; Sammeroff and Sonia, in acrobatic and dog act; and pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—This week: Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company in "Miss Hook of Holland." The company includes: Mr. Fred J. Little, Mr. George F. Ide, Mr. Sen Holloway, Mr. James Davis, Mr. Oliver Comber, Mr. A. W. Bartlett, Mr. A. Budd, Mr. E. Roma, Mr. Wm. Nixon, Mr. John Gerant, Miss May Moffat, Miss Peggy Le Hay, Miss Kathleen Goslett, Miss Dorothy Maude, Miss Helene Moore, and Miss Dorothy Temple. Business-Manager, Mr. Wm. C. Beattie. Next week: "Robinson Crusoe."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Jackson Family; Manager, Mr. Jas. Jackson, sen. This week: Fred. Karno's company in "The Hydro," with Syd Chaplain as Nick Sharp; Stanley Thorn, vocal comedian; Bugler Carr, equilibrist and musical puzzle; Musical Miners in a capital musical act; Edith England, contralto vocalist; the Dorinos in "The Dancing Academy"; Lindsay and Hart, in a Scotch comedy act; and pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—Sole-Lessees, Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jas. Pringle. This week: Miss Ruthie Vollmer, Scottish comedienne and dancer; Gladys and Alber, in a delightful comedy duo in which they introduce singing, dancing and comedy acrobats; and capital pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, North of England Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Dunbar; Musical-Director, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. George Dance's company is here in "The Quaker Girl," and every evening the house has been packed with enthusiastic audiences. The play goes with a jolly swing, and each individual member of the company works exceedingly hard to make the show a success. As the demure Prudence, Miss Elfie Vincent is the very essence of daintiness, and the pretty way she interprets the part calls forth well merited appreciation. As Tony Chute Mr. Louis Wigley is worthy of special mention for the very excellent impersonation of the rôle, and all through the play his enthusiasm is almost bubbling over. As Jeremiah Mr. Ken Worth is particularly good, and his quaint mannerisms prove a source of delight. One of the best impersonations is that of Phœbe, which is given splendidly by Miss Rita Everard, who both sings and dances cleverly. Mr. Jack Gray, in addition to carrying out the duties of stage-manager, ably fiulfils the rôle of Captain Charteris. Other parts all capitally sustained are Miss Elsie Skillings as Mme. Blum, Mr. Chas. Cautley as Prince Carlo, Mr. Monti McDonald as M. Larose, and Mr. Robert Dunn as M. Duhamel. The chorus are excellently trained, and the piece is staged most effectively.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Pearson; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Millar.—An exceptionally attractive programme is submitted here this week. The pièce-de-résistance is Miss Ethel Warde and company in the successful sketch, "Her Madcap Majesty," in which no fewer than twenty artistes appear. The sketch is elaborately staged, with pretty dresses. Other strong items include the Power Family, in a delightful musical entertainment; the Four Rio Brothers, in a novel gymnastic display; Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna, in a refined entertainment; Rowland, unique juggler; Thornbury, the lightning painter and entertainer; and Son Swans, in a novel comedy act.

RUGBY.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME AND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Mr. Geo. Bowes is presenting (twice nightly) the pantomime. "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." The company contains, amongst others, Miss Edith Evans, Miss Joan D'Arc, Miss Lillian Terry, Miss Violet Aubrey, Miss Kathleen Pelham, Miss May Souch, Miss Cissie Stockton, Mr. Jack Kendrick, Mr. Colin Carlisle, Mr. Peter Pan, Mr. George Guest, Mr. Phil Inglis, Mr. J. Ebsworth, Mr. Harry Alvey, Mr. Arthur Bright.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—The turns this week are France and Lillington; Ella Dare; and Jeavon and Jena; and pictures.

RUSHDEN.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Thompson; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Adams. — This week (twice nightly): Irma Lorraine, in poses and dances; Johnny Dwyer, comedian; Marie Gros, comedienne and dancer; Menetekel. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Messrs. Fitzmaurice and Lord present "The Ragged Patriot"; Ben Jackson, in banjo tricks and comedy; Mons. Roelgin, assisted by Malli Ellaine and his performing parrots; the Seven Wulfrunas, comedy acrobats. Picture matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden; Musical-Director, Mr. J. W. Ingham.—This is the second week under acting-manager, Mr. Harry Denvil for Mr. Edwin T. Heys, of "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Edward Benson, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Altona Stafford, Mr. Edward Cooper, Miss Marie Grace, Mr. F. Gerard Clifton, Mr. H. Denvil, Miss Dorothy Day, and Miss Frances Kendall.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. Hurley; Musical-Director, Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.—Under the personal supervision of Mr. Joe Collins, that gentleman's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," is twice nightly, and matinées, Tuesday and Saturday, doing well. The company includes: Miss Connie Hazleden, Miss Kitty Douglas, Miss Dora Burney, Mr. Harry Merrylees, Mr. Jack Edmunds, Messrs. Bernard and Weston, Mr. Harry Murrattis, Mr. Bert Eden, Mr. Alec Kennedy, and Miss Yeovenne Betts. Several specialities are contributed by the Murrattis.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn; Musical-Director, Mr. Franz Kingsley. — Mr. Andie Caine (who plays Sarah Ann the cook) is this week twice nightly presenting the pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat." He is assisted by Miss Maisie Gerrard (Dick), Miss Katie Cooper, the Sisters Florence, Miss Hawthorne Thwaites, Miss May McPherson, Mr. Geo. Cooper, Mr. Joe Kay, Mr. Charlie Cork, Murus Comedy Four, Mr. Dixon Cooper, and Mr. Eric Royston. The scenery designed and painted by Mr. Frank Day is good. The choruses show good training, and the specialities are well received, contributed to by Mr. Andie Caine, Miss Maisie Gerrard, the Three Coopers, Sisters Florence, and Murus Comedy Four. The songs include: "I wish you belonged to me," "Here's another one off for a sailor," "My beautiful doll," "Take me back to your garden of love," "Come on and hear," "Beside the big bamboo," "Everybody's doing it." Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday, 2.30.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turned; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. Hurley.—Mr. Tom Sherlock, tenor vocalist, introduces some illustrated songs; and the Regent new animated pictures include "Father," "Kings of the forest," "Touch of a baby," "Funnicus as a boat builder," etc. Twice nightly, and matinées, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Wednesday, special trial turns.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Electric Theatres, Ltd. (London); Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—This week: Slippere, the clever blind musician; and pictures. Twice nightly, and matinées, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

SALISBURY.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Maitland.—On Tuesday and Wednesday, Messrs. Macdonald and Young's company in "The Dollar Princess." The following are in the cast: The Misses Nellie Wallace-Reville, Iris Beresford, Margaret Carter, Tina Lincoln, Phyliss Desmond, May Lashbrooke, Dorothy Stafford, Mina Goss, Margaret Oliphant, Lily Davies, Cherry Hamilton, Marjorie Elliott, Muriel Hynes, and D. King. Messrs. Charles Midgley, Derick Knowles, Norman Bower, Austin Green, Ernest Pierce, Bert Darrell, Huntly Gifford, Donald Grey, Francis Sawyer, and John Bernard. For the remainder of the week pictures and varieties by Foden, hand-balancer; Unthan, the armless wonder; and the Four Kings, juvenile vocalists and dancers.

SEACOMBE.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, the New Apollo Syndicate; General-Manager, Mr. Ludwig Blattner.—This week: Edna Barrett, soprano; the Cosmopolitan Orchestra; and pictures.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—A good audience welcomed Mr. George Dance's company on Monday in the musical comedy (from the Adelphi Theatre), "Autumn Manœuvres," adapted by Henry Hamilton. It is some time since Mr. Huntley Wright appeared here, and his clever acting and characteristic drolleries in the part of Captain Withers kept the house in a continual state of hilarity. Mr. Ivan Clark submitted a good military sketch as the Sergeant; Miss May Rawlinson's acting and singing as Alix Luttrell was much enjoyed; and other characters were excellently played by Miss Bertie Adams as June Pomeroy, Miss P. Beny as Lady Ulleswater, Miss Violetta Bruce as Mary Medhurst, Miss Ida Stockwell as Mrs. Leyland-Holt, Miss Nesta Allen as Claire, Miss Winifred Burke as Sybil, Miss Florence Fowler as Jean, and Miss Beatrice Willey as Lady Larkins. Mr. J. Gordon James made a smart young officer as Capt. Frank Falconer, and cleverly acted characters were Mr. Harry Johnstone's Oswald Orde, Mr. Oswald Lingard's Major-General Pomeroy, Mr. John Valentine's Col. Annesley, Mr. Sam Walsh's Charles Tremayne, Mr. G. Wilson's Captain Devenish, Mr. Hugh Allen's Corporal Kellett, Mr. George Garnett's Waterman, Mr. R. Ronald's Vereker, and Mr. Edgar Jepson's Jephson. There was a well-balanced chorus, and the dances arranged by Mr. Willie Warde were loudly applauded. The artistic scenery by Alfred Terraine was much admired, and the costumes were first-rate. Mr. Harold Lonsdale was an efficient conductor. Next week: "Ben Hur."

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. M. Mahoney.—Mr. Hart's splendidly staged pantomime, "Cinderella," continues to give delight to large audiences.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The merry annual, "Mother Goose," is still performed to enthusiastic houses.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. M. Stewart.—Mr. George Lashwood, the well-known "swell comique," has been a big Sheffield favourite for many years, and his appearance at the Empire, perfectly dressed, with a repertory of catchy songs, has been, as usual, a great success. The rag-time sensation has two active exponents in the clever duo, Frank and Vesta; Miss Edith Fink, a charming comedienne, is a general favourite; a good humorous sketch with excellent types of character is submitted by Mrs. Graeme Goring and company in "The Heid o' the Hoose"; the Delevines, pantomime favourites, here again exhibit their comic talent and pantomimic agility in the burlesque, "The Wicked Witch's Wish"; the Bellclair Brothers are smart athletes; and the programme also includes Miss Sable Fern in "The Boy Scout," Empire pictures, and Mr. Albert Rees, drawing-room entertainer. The Empire directorate, with its usual enterprise, has arranged for six matinée performances this week of Sir Joseph Beecham's magnificent production (from the Aldwych Theatre), "The Golden Land of Fairy Tales."

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—The fifth pantomime of the season, Mr. J. F. Elliston's popular "Puss in Boots," was presented to a crowded audience on Monday. The book is by Hickory Wood, and the scenery, dresses, and ballets are on Mr. Elliston's accustomed artistic scale. The Prince has a shapely and vivacious representative in Miss Vivian Stafford; Miss Cherry Hardy makes a charming boy as the Miller's Son; Miss Gertie Leno is very successful as the Fairy Queen; Miss Rosie Westgate is highly popular as the graceful and piquant Mavis; and the part of the Princess has a pleasing representative in Miss Molly McCarthy. The hearty fun is well kept up by Mr. Arthur Mertz, who causes much laughter as the Prince; Mr. Will Beanland submits another mirth-provoking "portrait of a perfect lady" as the Dame; Mr. Jack Volta as the active Cat; Mr. Walter Whittle, the laughable burlesque Baron; Mr. Harry Wilkinson and Happy Attwood as the irrepressible Muggles. Miss Lucy Linda's operatic dancing is enthusiastically applauded, and the specialities include the Harmony Quartette (conductor, Mr. A. Baker).

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—Manager, Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—Refined varieties and artistic new pictures continue to please large and delighted audiences.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—Catlin's Pierrots began their annual engagement here on Monday, and pleased a good house.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr. James Chapman; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank Hickling.—The second pantomime of the season, "Robinson Crusoe," is being presented by Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon with a good all-round company. Miss May Poulton makes a capital principal boy, and her songs were well rendered and very popular; and Miss Lizzie Pearce is equally successful as Polly Perkins, and is an excellent dancer. Miss Irene Pearce was a dashing Tom Bowling, her dancing and singing being much appreciated; and Miss Florrie Delamere was very good as Susan. Mr. Mark Stuart, Will Atkins; Mr. Will Harris (Bogey Bogey), as Billy Crusoe; and Ted Young, as Dame Crusoe, created roars of laughter, and additional fun was caused by the Adams, comedy cyclists. An excellent display of acrobatic dancing was given by Mr. Albert Lyon, as Friday. Miss Chrissie Forrester sang sweetly and acted well as Undine. The ballet groupings were fine, and the chorus strong. Business-Manager, Mr. Ern Carlton; Assistant-Stage-Manager, Mr. Harvey Malcolm; Ballet-Mistress, Mme. Delamere; Wardrobe-Mistress, Mme. Spiers.

SMETHWICK EMPIRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. G. Guest.—Harry Tate's No. 1 Company present the laughable sketch, "Motoring"; Skotch and Polly, in national tit-bits, introducing character songs, patter and dances; Joe Cookson, in his new, original ventriloquial cartoon act, "The Artist's Studio," with special scenery and effects; Olive Marshall, comedienne and club swinger, introducing the electric clubs; Barney Deeley, comedian; the Musical Keiths (Carlina and Charlie), novelty instrumentalists and operatic xylophonists; and the Bioscope pictures make up a capital programme.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kennedy.—Lolo May Trio, lady gymnasts, cortortionists and speciality dancers; Charles Coles, light comedian; and Peter Shannon, the ideal coon. Pictures complete.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—The pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," is making good here, and great praise is due to Mr. Kennedy Allen, the producer, stage-manager, and principal comedian.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley; Musical-Director, Mr. James Southworth.—This week (twice nightly): Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, magicians; Stella Stahl, soubrette; Tim Carlisle, college comedian; Addie Adell, actress vocalist; Legardo Bros.; Four Kemptons, singers and dancers; Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian; pictures.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Murray. Mr. Albert Chevalier is this week starring here, and the famous character impersonator is nightly received with uproarious applause. He is accompanied by Mr. J. C. Holliday. Graham, the human marionette; Agnes Tina, mimic; Sandy Donaldson, Scottish comedian; Talbot and Pearce, Irish duo; Ragolio, the R.A. artist; and the Four Musical Gardiners, also successfully appear.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham; Musical-Director, Mr. Joseph Moss.—This week (once nightly): Fred W. Carpenter's pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk." Touring-Manager, Mr. Herbert Abrahams. The company includes: Daisy Verne, Gracie Matheson, Sisters Hula, Dorothy Foster, Pannett and Neden, Jack Haddon, Syd Crossley, Montague Biggs, Fred Eugene, Audrey Alison, Marie Raynor, Gladys Beaumont, the Four

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THE NATIONAL RESERVE MATINEE.

The details of the programme for the matinée in aid of the funds of the Westminster Battalion of the National Reserve—arranged by Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley and Mr. Robert Horton—to be held at the St. James' Theatre (kindly lent by Sir George Alexander) on Friday next, are now complete, and we venture to say that such a programme has seldom been arranged for a single occasion.

Miss Winifred Emery and Mr. Charles Glenney will appear in a new duologue by Mr. Robert Higginbotham, entitled "Clearly and Concisely." Miss Vesta Tilley will sing "Here's jolly good luck to the girl who loved a soldier," accompanied by the Palace Theatre orchestra, conducted by Mr. Herman Finck. Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. Graham Browne, and Mr. Shiel Barry will follow in "An Imaginary Conversation." Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. John Harwood and Co. will play "The Particular Pet." Sir John Hare and Mr. A. E. George will play "A Quiet Rubber." Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan will repeat their success in "A Slice of Life," by J. M. Barrie, and Sir George Alexander and Miss Marie O'Neill will give the second act of "The Turning Point." Miss Compton will recite "Some of My Friends," by R. C. Carton. Miss Lottie Venne appears in her monologue, "Mrs. Rawdon's Rehearsal," and Mr. J. H. Barnes will recite "The Charge of the Light Brigade," with trumpet and musical accompaniment. Miss Ruth Vincent will sing "The fairy pipers," by A. Herbert Brewer. The Band of the 2nd Life Guards will supply the orchestra.

The souvenir programme, the cover of which has been designed by Miss Kathleen Lacey, will contain portraits of all concerned, and Mr. R. Caton Woodville has drawn a magnificent picture especially for the occasion, a reproduction of which will be given away with the programme, and the original picture, mounted and framed, will be sold to the highest bidder. The matinée is under the patronage of H.M. Queen Alexandra, Lord Roberts, V.C., Sir Evelyn Wood, V.C., and the Mayor of Westminster.

On Jan. 16, 17 and 18 very interesting performances were given at the New Theatre, Oxford, of the Rev. W. T. Saward's historical play "Glastonbury." Mr. Saward himself played the part of the Abbot with authority and considerable dignity. He scored a distinct success. Miss Ruby Bower was a bright and cheerful Jester, and Miss Janet Barrow acted with considerable power as Madge O'Lackland. The singing was splendidly rendered by the Magdalen College Quartette, while members of the City of Oxford Dramatic Society gave their services as the chorus and filled many of the parts, and a morris-dance was most gracefully performed by them.

Mr. Sid Cotterell, the well-known comedian, has decided to produce E. and H. Gordon Clifford's new dancing episode, "Tantalizing Terpsichore," at Brighton, on Monday next. Rehearsals, which have been held under the personal supervision of the actor and authors, have shaped well, and, judging by the freshness and spontaneity of the idea—reminiscent of Olympian festivals, when the goddess danced the doldrums out of the hearts of the assembled deities—the modern "gods" should have a novelty in store for them. Terpsichore herself, whose appearance is too cerulean to be under a cloud, will be played by Miss Violet Hope, a clever dramatic dancer and actress. Mr. Cotterell has the part of Timothy, a waiter, a character particularly suitable to him.

The management of "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford" at the Queen's has issued an ingenious advertisement for the piece in the shape of a share prospectus announcing that the application list will remain open "from Monday, 10 a.m., until Saturday, 10 p.m. every week." "The Universal Covered Carpet Tack Co., with a capital of $500,000, divided into 100,000 shares of $5 each, fully paid. The directors are: G. W. Battles, banker, Mugs' Villa, Battlesbury (chairman); Timothy Battles, Mayor of Battlesbury, the Gildall, Battlesbury; Richard Welles, estate agent, The Retreat, Battlesbury; Abe Gunther, 'bus proprietor, Miser's Mews, Battlesbury; and Henry Quig, coal and coke merchant, Graball House, Battlesbury. Colonel J. Rufus Wallingford, of the Rookery, Battlesbury, will join the board after allotment." The auditors are the London Public, and the "secretary and registered offices" are given as A. Jester, Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. The rest of the prospectus is equally amusing.

The continued success of "Allah's Orchard," which was produced at the Elephant and Castle Theatre last autumn, has induced Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood to tour the piece right through the summer. The company includes Miss Florence Zillwood and Mr. Arthur Hinton. We understand that Miss Emma Litchfield, the authoress of "His Indian Wife," "King of the Gipsies," and "Allah's Orchard," is busily engaged in writing a new up-to-date drama for Messrs. Hinton and Zillwood, which they intend to produce in the coming autumn.

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Mr. Landon Ronald has engaged Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry for his Symphony Concerts, and she will appear for the first time on the concert platform on Feb. 6, when she will sing one of Felician David's famous airs. Miss Neilson-Terry's voice is said to be of exceptional quality.

Lord Howard de Walden's eloquent lament at the O.P. Club that in spite of all efforts nothing in the way of a Welsh play had found its way to the English stage coincides curiously with the announcement we are able to make on the authority of Messrs. Grect and Engelbach, of the Lyric Theatre. These well-known managers have, in conjunction with Messrs. Arthur Collins, Louis Meyer, and C. B. Cochran, secured a Welsh comedy, entitled "The Joneses," the work of a very well known literary hand who desires to remain anonymous for the present. The piece will be produced as soon as a suitable West-End theatre can be secured for the purpose.

At Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, the curtain will ring down to-night on "Humpty Dumpty," the best pantomime ever produced at this house. At all performances during its run, both matinée and evening, the theatre has been packed to its utmost capacity. Enormous hits have been made by Miss Minnie Love and Miss Nancy Buckland, the principal boy and girl respectively, while amongst the comedians Mr. Stratton Mills (Dame) and Mr. Edward Russell (King Sollumm) will long be remembered. The daring acrobatic comedy act of the Werds Brothers has all along been a feature of the show, and this clever couple have been accorded an ovation at every performance. "Humpty Dumpty" goes to Hull next week with the best wishes of all who have seen this delightful pantomime. Mr. A. J. Nicholls, the manager of the company, has made many warm friends during his stay in Juteopolis. Next week's attraction at Dundee's premier playhouse is the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, after which Mr. Martin Harvey presents, amongst other plays, Reinhardt's great production of "Œdipus Rex," to which Dundee playgoers are looking forward with agreeable expectancy. The spring bookings beat anything ever presented to Dundee audiences, so Mr. Louis Karpe, the courteous licensee and manager of Her Majesty's can confidently look forward to a brisk and successful season.

THEATRICAL LAW.

A TENOR'S DAMAGES.

In the Divisional Court on the 17th inst. before Mr. Justice Ridley and Mr. Justice Lush, the case of Zamco v. Hammerstein was an appeal by Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, late director of the London Opera House, against a judgment given by Judge Woodfall, at Westminster County Court, in favour of plaintiff, Mons. Serge Zamco, operatic artiste, who sued Mr. Hammerstein for damages for breach of contract made in March, 1912, at Paris.

The plaintiff was a tenor singer, and he was engaged to sing at £20 a night. He agreed to travel to London on April 27, 1912, to rehearse and give four performances, or more if required. He was to have two first-class fares from Paris to London paid by the manager. The first two performances were to be on May 2 and 4, and another two were to be given within the fortnight. Plaintiff received £40 and his first-class fare and came to London. He rehearsed in a private room with a piano, and no fault was found with him. At the final rehearsal, the plaintiff, who represented himself as having played the part of Manrico in "Il Trovatore" on many occasions, came on the stage, and, according to the judgment given, that rehearsal was thoroughly bad; and Mr. Hammerstein refused to allow Zamco to perform. The County-court judge found for plaintiff for £40, in addition to the £40 paid, with £2 damages ultra, and costs.

The case was adjourned till Tuesday, when the Court, in allowing the appeal, ordered a new trial.

Mr. Justice Ridley said they were of opinion that there must be a new trial, because the county court judge did not properly decide the case. It was an implied term of M. Zamco's contract that he should be competent to perform the duties he undertook. When the rehearsal took place it was admitted that his performance was a bad one, and although it was not suggested that his voice was gone, he was nervous and troubled.

His lordship thought the appellant had a right to act in a reasonable way for his own protection, and the question which the judge had not decided was whether he had properly exercised that right.

Mr. Justice Lush concurred.

AN EDUCATED ACTOR.

In the Bow-street Juvenile Court, on Monday, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, an application was made for a licence for a boy aged eleven to appear at the Criterion Theatre. The lad had a private governess, who instructed him in the daytime, and accompanied him to the theatre every night, and the whole of his salary—£5 10s. a week—was banked for his benefit, it being the intention of his parents to send him to a public school when he was old enough. Sir Albert de Rutzen, in granting the licence, announced that in future children coming from the country to London would have to travel on some other day than Sunday if they expected to be licensed by him.

A YOUNG BURGLAR.

At Croydon, on Monday, Ernest Bance, thirteen, of Cairo-road, Croydon, was charged with stealing tools from a shed by means of which he and another boy broke into the Grand Theatre, Croydon. On Sunday, Jan. 12, he entered through the dressing-room window, and was found on the premises.

The magistrates ordered him to be sent to the training ship Cornwall for five years.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR'S AFFAIRS.

A sitting was held at the London Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday for the public examination of Mr. Robert Arthur, of Park-crescent and Regent-street. The debtor was not present owing to illness. A certificate was produced to the effect that he was suffering from debility and insomnia, and had been ordered to take a sea voyage. A statement of affairs has now been filed, however, disclosing liabilities to the amount of £46,670 and available assets £935. From the accounting statement it appears that from July, 1909, the debtor estimates his profits from the production of pantomimes at Glasgow and Manchester at £9,400; salary from the Robert Arthur Theatrical Co. (Ltd.), £7,437; salary from bookings of other theatres, £749; profits from the Kennington Theatre to May, 1911, £6,000; profits from theatre at Newport, £750; and sale of interest in Kennington Theatre, £17,000. He accounts for those moneys and his present deficiency as follows: Excess of liabilities over assets on July 23, 1909, £25,000; bad debts, £2,905; household expenditure estimated at £14,246; loss in connection with the Coronet Theatre, £9,000; loss in connection with the Fulham Theatre, £3,000; loss on the Birmingham pantomime, £2,500; law costs, £750; loss on share transactions, £600; travelling expenses, £1,500; and insurance premiums, £2,000. The examination was adjourned to Feb. 19.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

At the matinées in aid of the Little Sisters of the Poor, which will be given at the Little Theatre on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 3 and 4, the programme will consist of a "Follies" entertainment and a one-act comedy, entitled "A Love Passage," by W. W. Jacobs and Philip E. Hubbard, in which Miss Esmé Hubbard, Mr. Campbell Gullan, Mr. Stewart Dawson, and Mr. Arthur Hatherton will play.

The next matinée performance of the Drama Society will be given at Cosmopolis, 201, High Holborn, on Tuesday, Feb. 11, when "Catherine the Great," a new Russian play by Mr. R. Henderson Bland and Mr. A. E. Manning Foster, will be produced. Mr. R. Henderson Bland (the Christus of "From Manger to Cross") will appear as Count Poniatowski, Mr. Clarence Derwent as Bestoujeff, Mr. L. M. Lion as Lamberti, and Miss Frances Dillon as Catherine the Great.

On the occasion of the Dunvilles' benefit on Thursday last at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, where they have been playing in Mr. Arthur Carlton's pantomime, their little daughter, who has been working in the song, "Let's have a game of ring o' roses," with her father, appeared in a number by herself, "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," and, although only nine years old, she scored a great success, and shows great promise of a professional career.

BITS ABOUT BOOKS.

Weedon Grossmith's Reminiscences.*

This is one of those books which are "chock" full of anecdotes, and consequently have not a dull page in them. It is an autobiography of Mr. Weedon Grossmith, illustrated by amusing stories. Whereas, in an ordinary account of an actor's career, we have only the date of his birth and records of his appearances in important parts, in a volume of this sort we find all the colour filled in on the outline, and the picture painted and finished. The comparison is appropriate; for, as everyone knows, Mr. Grossmith was a painter before he became a "pro." He seems to have made his first real success as an actor in America in "The Pantomime Rehearsal," as a new kind of stage dude or masher. "Up till then," says the reminiscer, "the public had been acquainted with the wonderful character that Sothern had created, Lord Dundreary, with long side whiskers and the lisp and a stutter. But the other variations of the masher had generally been depicted by a very tall man, with a very fair wig and a very pale face, who constantly drawled out, 'Haw! Haw! Don't-cher-know? Haw! Weally!' So my masher came like a thunderbolt, with dark hair, a little bit curly in front, and red face, a small man dressed in the pink of fashion. I was the first actor to introduce the crease down the centre of the trousers, a huge straw-coloured diamond in the centre of my shirt, and a small emerald above and below it, which I copied from Lord Kinnoull and the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt-Wilson, two of the very smartest men of that day. I modelled my character on a type of the smart young peer one used to meet about at sporting gatherings and clubs. The hand shake I modelled on the Prince of Wales's (afterwards King Edward VII.). It was a vigorous shake of the hand with an extended arm, held rigid, and keeping the recipient of the shake well at arm's length. It took New York by storm."

After this came an engagement to play Jacques Strop to Henry Irving's Robert Macaire at the Lyceum; and, in this connection, Mr. Grossmith tells an anecdote which, we believe, has not been before seen in print. He describes Irving as taking great pains to instruct and advise the younger actor:

"Irving would say, 'Now, my boy, just try and concentrate your attention, if you can for awhile, and follow my instructions. Whenever I bluster as Macaire you must always echo me! See! Imitate me! Do you understand? No, I see you don't! You're not listening, my boy!'

"'Yes, I am, Mr. Irving,' I feebly replied.

"'Then use your brains,' he said. 'Now you understand you've got to imitate me. That's simple enough, isn't it? I'm the swaggering thief, you are the timid contemptible thief, but when I swagger you must swagger too, you must imitate me.' He meant, of course, that I was to copy the swagger. I wish I had understood his meaning. 'Now, then, are you ready?' he shouted loudly. 'Good! We don't want to stop the rehearsal again.' I plead guilty to giving a mild imitation of the great actor, and was preparing my feeble mimicry, when Irving, as Macaire, got into position, banged the table with his stick, and shouted in the words of the play, 'Hi, landlord, landlord, why the devil don't you bring some refreshment for myself and my noble friend the Marquis?' 'Go on,' he said to me aside, 'go on!'

"I rushed at it, hit the table, and gave them my regular, conventional back-drawing-room imitation of the great man himself. Jogging my head and waving my hands in the air, I shouted, 'Hi, hi—er—er—Landlord—er—er—why the devil—er—er—er—don't you bring—er—er—some—er—er—refreshment—er—for—my—er—self and—er—er—er.' I never got any further. Fifty people on the stage collapsed—some with fear, others with laughter. Never had such a thing been known within the sacred walls of the Lyceum. The late Harry Loveday, the stage-manager, turned pale with fright; the great chief glared at me for a moment with his eyes dilated, and then gave me a push, saying, 'Stupid fellow!' He practically pushed me off the stage."

These are but samples of this delightful collection of personal recollections, which deal with painting, fishing, bargain-hunting, "fast" life in London, and the author's experiences on the stage. The book is illustrated with a portrait of Mr. Weedon Grossmith, some excellent engravings of his best pictures, and a likeness of his charming wife. It is amusing and interesting from the first page to the last.

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*From Studio to Stage. Reminiscences of Weedon Grossmith, written by himself. One vol. John Lane.

A Heart-Wringing Story.*

Miss Robins has written one of the most terribly soul-searching novels that we have ever read. One lays it down with a feeling of dreadful despair that such things are, that such suffering can be caused and the authors of it escape. Yet the tale carries the conviction that the authoress is writing "by the card," and that her story is founded on fact. The "White Slave" question is in the air; and the very painful account of the capture of two young girls by a cunning procuress, of the escape of one of them and the ruin of the other in spite of her sister's frantic efforts to save her, will be eagerly read, and will do much good.

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*Where Are You Going To? By Elizabeth Robins. One vol. Heinemann.

Again the Censor.*

It is like flogging a dead horse to write against the Censor at present; but those who may like to have the case against him put thoroughly and exhaustively will find it done in Mr. Palmer's book.

The larger half of the essay is based upon the evidence given before the Joint Select Committee of 1909. Everything was said before this Committee than can be said on either side; and any change that may be made in legislation will be based on a careful reading of the evidence of the witnesses. After discussing the origin of Censorship, and stating as briefly and clearly as possible the law as it stands to-day, the author groups the evidence for and against the Censor, outlines briefly the various remedies which at present hold the field, and sums up in favour of the abolition of the Censor.

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*The Censor and the Theatres. By John Palmer. One vol. T. Fisher Unwin.

The Widow of Richard Wagner.*

From the date when Wagner fixed upon the little Franconian town for the site of his ideal theatre, Bayreuth has occupied a position of great importance in the musical world. It became the Mecca of enthusiastic lovers of the great composer's methods and work; and the ideal performances within its walls—governed by the fine imaginative gifts of a poet as well as a musician—have been the theme of many books and pamphlets. Still another has been published by T. Fisher Unwin, and the most interesting portion of the little volume is the pen-portrait of Frau Cosima Wagner, written by Anna Bahr-Mildenburg, who has collaborated in the authorship with her husband, Hermann Bahr, author of "The Fool and the Wise Man." As Fräulein Anna Mildenburg the lady has won a considerable reputation in Vienna as an impersonator of such important Wagnerian rôles as Kundry, Brunnhilde, and Isolde. It was when she was about to take up the part of the Irish princess that she visited—as an always honoured guest—Frau Wagner, in order to study the character. The grateful prima donna writes: "There I realised the character of Isolde, the queen, with her poor, struggling, human heart; Isolde, the woman with her passionate queenly grace." There is a touching description of the visit of the two women on the last night of the artiste's stay, to the back part of the garden, where Wagner sleeps—the spot to which Cosima Wagner, "carries all that the world offers her, all that she has overcome, all that she has won, and all the love and admiration the world has given her. Here on this green hill, with the silence of nature around her, she unburdens her soul and holds communion with her dead, and after laying down her burden under the shadow of the eternal silence, she returns strengthened and refreshed to continue her life's work." Other chapters in the volume include a description of "Rehearsals at Bayreuth," which Herr Bahr rightly regards as the personification of a vivid living will and genius, united to German thoroughness and work, and a stimulating essay to the stage-director of the modern theatre; and "Snöbl against Wagner" is interesting as a view of a class of people nearly allied to snobs, but far worse.

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*Bayreuth and the Wagner Theatre. By Anna Bahr-Mildenburg and Hermann Bahr. London: T. Fisher Unwin, Adelphi-terrace, W.C.

A Rare Heroine.*

The author of "The Enchanting Mysteries of Kathleen Carter" has shown much ingenuity in the writing of this fanciful and fascinating romance, a skilful blending of the ideal and the real. The heroine of the curious chronicles retailed is Kathleen Carter, who as a child of six is sent to a day school in Ryde kept by an old maiden lady named Miss Reber. The lonely woman, who has in her early life been on the stage, is devoted to her pupil, befriends her, and eventually teaches her dancing, and introduces her to the beauties in Shakespeare. Coming into much wealth, Miss Reber takes the Theatre Royal, Ryde, for a season, and the bewitching Kathleen plays Rosalind in "As You Like It." Two mysterious and wealthy strangers witness her immediate triumph, and her remarkable courtship and marriage by one, and the further mysterious happenings that follow make very interesting reading.

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* The Echanting Mysteries of Kathleen Carter." By Pierre Le Clercq. Grant Richards, Ltd.

"MOTHER GOOSE" AT THE BOROUGH, STRATFORD.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

Mr. Fred Karno's second consecutive pantomime at the Stratford Borough Theatre is more essentially a children's entertainment in that dear old Mother Goose and her "oof" bird dominate the story throughout. Consequently with its wealth of appropriate scenery and beautiful dresses, worn to distinct advantage by the many comely and shapely chief chorus ladies, and its plethora of comedy business and songs, of which the ubiquitous ragtime numbers are very prominent, the pantomime should repeat for Mr. Karno the success of his last year's effort.

Mr. Fred Emney's impersonation of Mother Goose has developed into a rich and ripe character study of a querulous, vain old woman, with a keen sense of dry humour, and it is a performance one can enjoy over and over again, the old lady's sayings and doings compelling incessant laughter. Miss Lily Iris has become very popular as Colin, and all her songs go wonderfully well. "Ragtime Cowboy Joe," with a picturesque male chorus, is in high favour, and "Hitchy Koo" has the genuine ragtime ring about it, while the duet, "I'd like to go on a honeymoon," sung with Miss Vera, wins loud applause. Miss Maudie Vera is a decided acquisition as Jill, acting with quite an infectious happiness, and she is a warm favourite. "Better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all" is rendered in captivating style, and "Dixie" is also a very successful number, besides which her dancing is greatly admired. Miss Sydney Fairbrother supplies a very quaint and interesting impersonation of Charity, besides sharing in the success of several concerted numbers.

Mr. George Bray, as Mother Goose's son Jack, is often in the picture, and his droll and entertaining style readily compels laughter. He also has a speciality number with Mr. Fred Melt, which wins hearty applause. Mr. W. H. Kirby as the Mayor extracts unlimited merriment from the part, and wins plenty of favour with "Ring o' roses," and also "Moonlight Bay," in conjunction with Miss Maudie Vera.

As the Squire, Mr. Phil Parsons is very successful, and he has three fine successes in "All through the wedding march," "Here's another one off for a sailor," and "Paree." The Two Le Roys prove themselves very charming and clever duettists in "My heart is with you to-night," and their excellent reception is well merited. Miss Priscilla Stevens readily wins success as Première Danseuse; and the Broker's Men, Warp and Woof, provide some merry moments as impersonated by Mr. Fred Melt and Mr. Billie Moran. A noteworthy performance is that of Mr. Joe Arthur as the Goose, as is testified by the applause he receives when appearing minus his headpiece at the close of the performance. The Gnome is dramatically played by a diminutive performer in Mr. A. E. Burtie; and little Edna Barker makes a pretty Fairy. A special word must be said for the Horse, whose antics are uproariously funny, as played by Mr. Harry Jones and Mr. L. Jones.

Mr. Dudley Powell presides in genial manner over the augmented orchestra, and is responsible for the fine *tout ensemble*. Mr. W. H Morgan, who produced, is to be congratulated; and more than a passing word must be said for Mr. Alex Mee's excellent stage-management. Mr. Fred Karno's business interests are safely entrusted to Mr. James Leslie; and Mr. Percy Ford, the popular acting-manager, ably looks after the comfort of his numerous patrons.

Mr. Arthur Carlton's successful and pretty pantomime "Cinderella," which finishes its run at the Bordesley Palace Theatre this week has been the means of another one of Miss Rose Tyrrell's pupils proving what they can do. Engaged in the first instance as second girl and principal dancer, Miss Elsie Wilson immediately established herself as a big favourite, the three solo dances that she treated the enthusiastic audiences to at each performance gaining for her hearty rounds of well-deserved applause. This week she has shown herself in another light by taking up the principal part at short notice, and has delighted every one in the title-rôle, proving herself one of the prettiest and daintiest of Cinderellas Birmingham has seen for many a day. Not only is she so graceful in her movements as an actress, but the same may equally be said of her dancing. This clever young lady is a native of Birmingham.

Owing to Miss Wilson playing Cinderella this week Miss Dorothy Perrin, who has made quite a success with her song "Joshu-ah," takes up Miss Wilson's dances, and shows that she is equally at home in that line as she is in the artistic rendering of songs. This young artiste also studied at Miss Tyrrell's well-known school.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

Correspondents will please note that it is absolutely necessary that all copy should reach us on Wednesday mornings by first post.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Musical Play, entitled
"THE SUNSHINE GIRL."

Mr. George Dance's company present this week at the Dalston Theatre, the Gaiety musical play, "The Sunshine Girl," and this, the first visit of the piece to North London, proves to be a decided attraction. The "book," as provided by Paul A. Rubens and Cecil Raleigh, embodies a plot containing many points that cannot fail to interest, and the lyrics by Paul A. Rubens and Arthur Wimperis are taking, as are also, specially, some of the musical numbers, also the work of Mr. Rubens, who, as a matter of fact, is responsible for the whole score. A full operatic chorus and augmented band, under the direction of Mr. Albert Vernon, aid the success of the concerted and instrumental portions of the entertainment. The scenery, by Messrs. Brown and Loveday, Alf. Terraine, and Joseph Harker, is excellent, and the stage management is safe in the hands of Mr. John Rorke. So far as the acting is concerned all evidently do their very best, consequently the entire performance is invested with a considerable amount of spirit. The important character of Lord Bicester, who, throughout the main action of the story, consents, to oblige his friend Vernon Blundell, to impersonate him as the owner of the important perfumed soap works at Port Sunshine, in order to meet certain legal and sentimental points, is played by Mr. Jack Morrison, whose unflagging energy is positively enviable. He sings and dances admirably; in fact, he has a decidedly pleasant voice. His duets with Delia Dale are much applauded, and his singing of "Josephine," which tuneful song is accompanied by a pretty chorus and dance by ladies, is enthusiastically encored, being one of the new and, at the same time, most spirited features of the piece. Floot, an ex-four-wheeler driver, who, in the story, is many things by turns and nothing long, may be described as being to a great extent the most active element in the performance, is played by Mr. Theodore Leonard. He is the very embodiment of resource in matters of essential stage "business"; his dancing is of the alert order. In the duet, "Give us your name and address," Floot and Lord Bicester are screamingly funny. Miss Mysie Devine, as Delia Dale, of the perfume department at the works, treats the character quite delicately, and her rendering of the song bearing upon "Just a little, teeny, tiny touch" may therefore be referred to as quite characteristic. Miss Jennie Richards, who plays Brenda Blacker, gains an encore in the song and chorus, "Take me on a boat to Brighton." Miss Winifred Volt acts and sings admirably as Marie Silvaine, head of the packing department at the works. She gains much applause. Miss Dorothy Cooper is attractive as Lady Rosabelle Merrydew, Lord Bicester's fiancée. Mr. Percy Cahill enacts Commodore Parker quite cleverly; Mr. Harry Bentham is an interesting Vernon Blundell; Mr. Richard Saker does many clever and amusing things as Hodson, chief manager at the works; Mr. Charles McCann is an energetic Stepneyak, manager of the foreign department; Mr. Clifford Warren is an immaculate footman; Mr. Lionel Greene is Major Lascelles; Mr. John Rorke appears as Dever; and Mr. Jack Morris makes quite a life-like sailor. Miss Ruby Hope represents the Hon. Miss Gray, and Miss Marion Meynell is demonstrative as Miss Molyneux, a suffragette. Some taking descriptive songs are introduced during the representations, notably "What did the butler hear?" "Who's boss of the show?" (including political allusions), "The two nuts," etc.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Drama, entitled
"THE WHIP."

This week Mr. Geo. Dance's company in the Drury Lane drama is paying its first visit to Woolwich. Mr. Bert Golday submits a fine character study of the erring, weak parson, the Rev. Verner Haslem; Mr. Ernest James is capital as the manly Lord Brancaster, giving a forceful rendition throughout; the aged Lord Beverley as portrayed by Mr. George Lisle was everything that could be desired. The bibulous Joe Kelly, a "bookie," has in Mr. Geo. P. Polson as capable an exponent as it would be possible to find; Tom Lambert is cleverly played by Mr. Chas. V. Sandford. Plenty of fun was witnessed when the Tomlin family occupied the stage, and Misses Lilian Earle and Mabel Milne, Mr. Fred Elkington, and Master Leslie Jarvis must be congratulated in their various rôles. Miss Violet Roberts ably sustains the small rôle of Myrtle Anson, as also does Mr. Dennis Renton as her brother, Harry.

Miss Naomi Neilson was excellent as the Hon. Mrs. Beamish. Charming indeed is Miss Barbara Allen as Lady Di, a sweet, beautiful girl, lovable in every respect. This talented lady earned unstinted applause for her efforts. Mr. Frank Powell was a polished villain as Captain Sartoris; Miss Kennard is an ideal Mrs. d'Acquila. The minor characters are in safe hands. The four horses are beautiful creatures, and the scenery and effects, especially in the Collision and Race scenes, are marvels of stagecraft. Elegantly staged and dressed, "The Whip" is a distinct success.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Drama, by Emma Litchfield, entitled
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."

Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company, in "King of the Gipsies," is proving a strong attraction here this week. The piece is well mounted, and its interpretation is in every way satisfactory. Mr. Sydney Bland acts with vigour and variety as Jack Morland, and Mr. S. Leight Courtney is suave and plausible as the villainous Silas Craven. Mr. Arthur Rodney is a dignified and convincing Sir Charles Morland; Mr. Albert Grenville contributes a clever character sketch of the cunning old reprobate, Oliver Hunter; and Mr. Bertram Thomas is capital as the ubiquitous servant, Terry O'Flynn. Miss Emma Litchfield plays in true comedy vein as the good-hearted Flash Liz; Miss Josephine Richards portrays the comely gipsy girl, Nell Hillyard, with much dramatic skill; and Miss Ethel F. Greene supplies a sympathetic impersonation of the crippled waif, Chance. Minor parts are all carefully played.

EALING HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Play, entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

The pantomime season being over here, the management have made an excellent start in the more serious business of the year by securing Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's excellent production of Mr. Cyril Maude's success, "The Flag Lieutenant." No fault can be found with the casting of the piece, the principal and minor characters all being in capable hands. To Mr. H. L. Bruce falls the title-rôle, and his easy, self-confident style is admirably suited to the part of the sailor hero. Major Thesiger is well portrayed by Mr. H. Wolston, whose fine presence considerably enhances its value. Mr. Geo. Mallett gives a good performance in his rendering of Vice-Admiral Wynne, a typical sailor of the old school. The action of the play precludes the feminine element in the more striking scenes, but nevertheless some good work is done by the ladies of the company. Particular mention must be made of the able handling of the difficult rôle of Mrs. Cameron by Miss Laura Hansen, and the charming work of Miss May Lytton as Lady Hermione Wynne. Mr. H. Edward, a naval surgeon; Messrs. Strong and Hylton, as midshipmen; Mr. Ellis Dee, as General Gough-Boyle; and Miss Stella Leigh, as his wife, ably fill their parts. The minor characters are in the hands of Messrs. E. Mervyn, P. R. Forman, G. Marsden, H. Hart, V. R. C. Moors, C. Coupe, Yeldham, J. Ridley, P. Ramsey, C. V. Wallace, W. Clough, G. Graves, and Miss Gladys Storey. The dressing is well done, and the scenery, especially in the last act, calls for special mention. The first performance met with a gratifying reception from a good house.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Play, entitled
"KING OF THE WILD WEST."

The return visit of this piece attracted a large audience to this popular home of melodrama on Monday night, and it was received with every sign of favour. The company, which includes Young Buffalo and Miss Caroline May Blaney, is well balanced and capable, and the piece is mounted in excellent style. As King of the Wild West, Young Buffalo has a firm grip of the part, and gives a very natural impersonation. Mr. Ernest A. Foster contributes a meritorious sketch of Randolph Morton, a New York banker, and conspicuous ability is displayed by Mr. Robert Chambers, who acts the part of Jack Morton in a powerful and convincing manner. Excellent comedy is infused into the play by Mr. Gus Ruhlin as Judge Grit, lawyer and stage-driver, in which he is aided and abetted by Miss Kitty Glover as the Widow M'Carthy. Miss Caroline May Blaney is irresistible as Wild Nell. Charm and variety characterise her work, and she is very soon a great favourite with her audience. Miss Lucy Burrows captivates everyone by her pleasing portrayal of Kate Morton, "purtiest girl in Arizona." Mr. F. Morgan is well placed as Yellow Face, an Indian desperado. The villainous John Bluffington has, in Mr. Arthur C. Goff, an artist to the finger tips, his rendition being a well-thought-out and well-acted one. Bob and Ali Delamere are popular as Two Lung and One Lung, Chinese cook and waiter respectively at the Plaza Hotel. As the rough but good-natured Black Canon Pete, Mr. E. L. Restoff gives a capital representation, and Mr. Ralph Brambles plays convincingly as Pedro, a Mexican. Messrs. J. Reynard and J. Hudson Brownlee are seen to advantage as Wild-eyed Charlie and Hatchet-faced Abe, cowboys of the Sutton Outfit. Messrs. C. Shale (Texas Tom), W. Thomas (Mountain Jack), A. Solloway (Nevada Pete), E. Brunt (Arizona Jack), W. Hassel (Wyoming Bill), J. Williams (Black Horse Bill), P. Myatt (New York Harry), J. Bradshaw (Alabama Tim), and J. Pointing (Arizona Bob), all show up well in the picture. Mr. B. Radcliffe is responsible for Cayenne Joe, and Mr. Howard Aldwell for Rattlesnake Harry, both parts being interpreted to the life. There are quite a number of real Indians in war dress who take part in the play, and so make it more realistic, and Young Buffalo's Cowboy Band also render selections prior to the performance.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Pantomime,
"GOODY TWO SHOES."

King Pantomime has duly arrived here, and, although rather late in his appearance, was none the less worth waiting for. The book of "Goody Two Shoes" has been provided by Mr. Fred Moule, and he has provided a clear and distinct tale, easily followed, and which allows the comedians ample opportunities without detracting from the story. A dainty and charming Goodie has been secured in Miss Maudie Francis, and it would be difficult to secure a more sweet and fascinating exponent of the rôle. She quickly obtains the approval of the audience in her numerous songs and dances. Her two best are "I'm very fond of Billiken," and "All aboard for Bye-bye Land." She is also joined by Vivian (Miss Dora Sephton) in two charming duets, "I want to live in Brittany" and "Little shepherdess of Devon." Miss Dora Sephton is an ideal principal boy, and looks the character to the life. She scored an immediate success, and was soon a favourite with the audience. She is also well provided with melodies which are rendered with marked ability. Her principal numbers are: "Hullo, Susie Green," and "Follow the footprints in the snow." Violet Beatrice is another favourite as Bettie, who was heartily applauded for her rendering of "You beautiful doll," with full chorus of children, followed by a neatly executed dance, which deserves special mention. She has also a charming stage presence. Miss Dolly Venton is a captivating and graceful Electra, and sings and dances with spirit. "Take me back to Dixie" allowed her full scope for her abilities.

There is a clever band of comedians, headed by the popular Mr. E. A. Nicholls, of "What, what, what!" fame, as Sir Goosie Drake. He is irresistible as laughter-creator with his jokes and business, and during his occupancy of the stage there is not a dull moment. Mr. Eric Campbell is a mirth-provoking Lady Duckie Drake. He is well to the fore in the fun-making, working very hard and successfully, and in his song he is immense in more senses than one. Mr. Leo Main is also a favourite as Snobbie Wax. Mr. Matt Wilkinson plays Angelina Wax in a quiet and yet distinctly funny manner. Messrs. Somers and Walmer, a duo of smart comedians, represent Alexander and Maximilian in a clever way, their patter and novel business being deserving of warm praise. Mr. G. Fredericks enacts the Demon Taximan Solar effectively, scoring where opportunity occurs. There is also a tuneful chorus, which adds to the attractiveness of the performance. The pantomime is mounted and staged in a complete manner; the scenery, painted by Mr. Charles Douglas, containing some fine specimens of scenic art. The music has been specially composed and arranged by Mr. Wm. Gregory, this gentleman keeping an efficient orchestra well in hand throughout the performance. The entire production has been carried throughout under the supervision of Mr. Fred Baugh, who is to be congratulated on giving the local residents the opportunity of witnessing such a capital pantomime.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Military Drama, entitled
"SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN."

A powerful company did ample justice to this stirring and well-written drama. Mr. John F. Preston contributed a fine rendering of Jack Willoughby, and never missed a point. As Grace Forrester Miss Sybil Etherington was quite at home in the character. Miss East Robertson was well cast for an exciting part, Dick Forrester, and delivered her lines in an emphatic manner, looking and acting the fearless British soldier boy to the life. A typical Boer, Hans Muller, was capitally impersonated by Mr. Wilfred H. Benson. Mr. William Garrett deserves praise for his clever old-man character sketch of Reuben Brown, of Manatoppo Farm. Especially good services were rendered by Mr. Alfred Goddard, who appeared in the dual rôles of Captain Richard Forrester and Ralph Forrester, alias Forsyth, his half-brother. Mr. Henri Dore's personation of Tom Pinch, soldier and ostrich-feather dresser, &c., deserves mention. As the Jew financier, agent, &c., Solomon Levi, Mr. W. A. Passmore did well. Mr. Millar Anderson merits much eulogy for a natural rendition of the Zulu chief, Umgilligzai, two Boers (Peit Uys and Hendrick Hooston) being efficiently represented by Messrs. Sam Elston and F. Beaver respectively. Miss Gertrude F. Godart gained the full sympathy of the audience by an admirable embodiment of a finely drawn character, Susie Brown, Reuben's daughter. Miss Agnes Paulton added in no small degree to the popularity of the play by her bright comedy as Mary Ann (Susie's maid). The scenery by Leolyn Hart made a fit setting for the play. Mr. J. Hyman supplied the dresses, wigs, &c. Mr. Charles A. East, the stage-manager, by this production adds another triumph to his long roll of successes.

Prior to the play Miss Iva Voyce, a highly gifted contralto, appeared, gaining hearty applause. A really excellent show was given by talented Chris Van Bern, the new method comedian, in an amusing and mystifying monologue, and he well deserved the gratifying reception his smartness and skill received. Another amusing item was provided by Joe Hayman and Mildred Franklin, in their latest farcical mix-up, "Cohen's Mistake," cleverly written and acted, and heartily received. The Bioscope displayed a fine coloured panorama of "The River Clyde." The new manager, Mr. Harry J. Garnham, is rapidly making friends.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Irish Drama, entitled
"THE GREEN BUSHES."

It was gratifying to find on the programme here the pleasing announcement: "Welcome return of the West London favourite stock company, under the direction of Mr. W. J. Mackay," for in twice-nightly dramatic fare Mr. Mackay has been responsible in the past for many excellent shows in Marylebone. The favourite Irish play, "The Green Bushes," is this week's attraction. Mr. W. S. Hartford enacted harum-scarum Wild Murtough with refreshing originality and resource, winning golden opinions all round; Mr. Frank H. Carlile undertook the rôle of George O'Kennedy in accomplished style; Mr. J. W. Braithwaite supplied a very humorous portrayal of Mister Grinnidge, receiving ample assistance from Mr. Rollo Balmain, as Jack Gong; whilst Mr. David Noble filled the part of Connor O'Kennedy with ease and conviction; Miss B. Fielding sustained Miami with much delicate expression and restrained force; Miss Florence Lovel delineated Geraldine O'Kennedy with a quiet pathos; Miss Nina Osborne gave a finished impersonation of Nelly O'Neil; Miss Winifred Dugden played Tigertail admirably; Little Polly cleverly featured Eveleen; and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite proffered a delightful study of Meg, a type of character in which this experienced actress always excels. The rest of the cast all gave of their best, and scored accordingly. The orchestra, once again under the accomplished direction of Mr. Ward Bailey, ably fulfilled all requirements, and Mr. A. Ashcroft, in the front of the house, kept everything going smoothly and well.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, Jan. 20, the Pantomime, entitled
"BABES IN THE WOOD."

Mr. Arthur Carlton this week presents "The Babes in the Wood," and the company is to be congratulated upon the success that attends their efforts. The principals work hard throughout, and everything goes with a merry swing. Several new songs, some clever dancing, and some amusing and original jokes all add to the gaiety and brightness of the show, and the spacious and comfortable house has been packed from floor to ceiling. As Robin Hood Miss Marie Royce is all that could be wished for, all her songs securing warm applause. Her chief numbers are "Oh, you beautiful doll," "Mister Cupid," and "It's a long way to Tipperary." Miss Belle Greene makes a vivacious Maid Marian, and uses her charming voice with much effect. Her imitation of a little child reciting is also a clever piece of work. Miss Cicely Haines makes a strikingly handsome Fairy Fortuna. She has a pretty and pleasing manner, and sings with much taste "Take me back to the garden of love" and "My heart is with you to-night." Miss Queenie Victoria is delightful as Archie, one of the Babes, and her toe-dancing is very skilful. Another clever juvenile is Miss Miriam Stuart, who quickly makes herself a favourite as Jessie, the other Babe. Miss Irene Barnard is a smart Allen a'Dale; Miss Dorothy Dryden is excellent as Bluebell; and Miss Violet Duggan is well cast as Will Scarlet. Mr. Barry Gilmore, in his portrayal of Baron de Barbourne, keeps the audience in merry mood with his quaint antics and clever acrobatic work. Mr. Fred Ramsdale hits off the eccentricities of Nurse Prettypet with conspicuous skill. Mr. Will Smith is responsible for a humorous impersonation of Pickles. Prominent, also, among the excellent comedians are Messrs. Fred Russell and Sam Weller, who delight with their amusing patter and gags in the respective parts of Weary Tim and Tired Will. Mr. Arthur Lawrence supplies an excellent character study both of Will o' the Wisp and afterwards as King Richard, and uses a fine baritone voice to much advantage. Others, all contributing good work, are Miss Milly St. Clair (Buttercup), Miss Alean Graham (Annie Laurie), Miss Hilda Viviane (Starlight), Miss Irene Moss (Jennie o' the Dell), Miss Stella Leslie (Fanny), Miss Ada Thomas (George o' the Green), Miss Lucy Johnson (Harold), Miss Daphne Webster (Witless), Miss Lily Desmond (Cedric), and Miss Marjorie Desmond (Mat o' the Mill). Other attractive features are some clever dancing by the Bulgarian Ballet Troupe and the Sunflower Troupe. Mr. Arthur Carlton has richly dowered the pantomime with scenery and costumes, and the ballet work hard. An augmented orchestra is under the experienced guidance of Mr. Carl Colini, and the business-manager of the company is Mr. A. Hamilton Warden.

ACTORS' GRIEVANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

There are some proprietors who ought to be struck off the role of touring managers. I know one man, a wealthy manager too, who makes his artistes pay the three-quarter fares at the end of a tour in order to get his scenery through free.

I was once with this manager. We finished in Scotland. He asked me for my three-quarter fare to London, and when I refused, and travelled on my own responsibility at full fare, he retaliated by never giving me or mine another engagement.
—Yours faithfully, COSMO.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Robert Michaelis, the leading man in "Gipsy Love" at Daly's Theatre, to Miss Phyllis Le Grand, the young and pretty actress who was the heroine last summer in "Autumn Manœuvres" at the Adelphi, and was also one of the principals at the same theatre in "The Quaker Girl," and made a success in the provinces as the heroine in "The Merry Widow."

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday, the case of Mr. Thomas Augustine Barrett, musical composer, professionally known as Leslie Stuart, was in the list upon an application to approve a scheme of arrangement, which had been accepted by the creditors, and which provided for the payment of 7s. 6d. in the pound, claims for £1,240 being withdrawn. The liabilities were estimated at £8,043, and the available assets at £1,659. Counsel for the debtor said his client found that he would not be in a position to carry out his proposal, and therefore withdrew the application for its approval.

TOUCHSTONE CLUB.

SECOND ANNUAL DINNER.

A very successful and enjoyable social function was the second annual dinner of the Touchstone Club, held on Sunday evening at the Adelphi Hotel, Strand. A rule of the Club, which was founded only a year ago, is that no one is eligible for membership unless he has been an actor or manager for the period of twenty years.

Mr. Edward Sass was the chairman, and a better selection for that important position could not have been made. There were also present Messrs. Harry Nicholls (hon. secretary), Chas. Cruikshanks (hon. treasurer), W. R. Walkes, J. D. Beveridge, J. R. Crawford, Harry Paulton, H. A. Saintsbury, A. E. George, A. B. Tapping, Acton Bond, Fred Grove, F. J. Arlton, Paul Berton, Basil Charlton, J. J. Bartlett, Herbert Ross, Henry Bedford, F. Cremlin, Henry Arncliffe, Lionel Carson, Herbert Shelley, E. Dagnall, A. B. Murray, Robert Pateman, Douglas Gordon, Luke Forster, Laurence Caird, Harry Johnstone, F. W. Rix, Richard Cruikshanks, G. Shelton, R. T. Baines, Edward Paulton, and Leonard Pagden.

The list of toasts was commendably short, being limited to "The King," "The Touchstone Club," and "The Visitors."

The loyal toast having been duly honoured the chairman proposed "The Touchstone Club." "Salutation and greeting to all of you!" That was, he said, the utterance of the very wise fool, to whom they owed the title of the Club. Touchstone also said: "It is meat and drink to me to see a clown. By my troth, we that have good wits have much to answer for." They knew that the spirit of prophecy marked the writings of the great poet whose works had been attributed to others, because, it was said, he was only an actor. In ages to come he supposed that someone would endeavour to show that the plays of Pinero were written by Lloyd George, as the former having been an actor he could not have been the author of the plays. There was, he suggested, very much of the twentieth century element about the lines of Touchstone.

"Sweetest nut hath surest rind,
Such a nut is Rosalind."

There was surely a smack of the Criterion bar about those lines. He would ask them presently to drink to what was possibly the most popular toast in the world; it embraced all other toasts, and appealed most of all to their feelings—it was the toast of themselves. To do it justice there must be others present, for no one could imagine a man looking at himself in a glass and drinking his own health. It would be like paying for bouquets to be handed up to oneself on the stage, or an actor writing his own notices. They had all of them arrived at an age when they had memories of having been more or less up against cold-blooded audiences and unappreciative managers who failed to see in what direction they were benefiting the box-office; and yet they must have been very clever or they would have been "in the cart" years ago. If the public and the managers had stood them for twenty years there seemed some possibility of getting an engagement now and then for another twenty years. With regard to the Touchstone Club it had been in existence a little over a year. They had jogged along quietly and discreetly, and as behoved gentlemen of middle age; and, so far, they had not suffered from any of those cataclasmic schisms that were apt to split a club into two feeble halves. They had been spared the attentions of the ingenious reformer who had appeared in other places, and who, in his attempts to push good work along, pushed the members of his Club, and eventually got pushed himself. Nor had their members up to the present experienced any inconvenience from overcrowding. They had a committee of common-sense experienced men, and in Mr. Harry Nicholls they had an hon. secretary who was worth at least twenty ordinary hon. secretaries. Mr. Nicholls was a devoted lover of the Club which he founded. They had also a wonderful hon. treasurer in Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, who probably had been and still was a member of more clubs than any man alive. It was true that their hon. treasurer had not too much money to "treash"; but they could boast of a membership of dear fellows, good old comrades who lived in an atmosphere of memories—common to them all—of successes and failures. Their stories might be chestnuts, but, then, a story never became a chestnut unless it was a good one. They could tell stories of how the leading lady stuck in her lines, of flooded dressing-rooms in some of the old theatres, and of the happiness of long runs, eventually ending sometimes in long walks. They were the Scheherazades who told tales to the sultan willing to listen to them; and that was one of the charms of a club like theirs. As members they possessed what was the most valuable of all qualities—experience—and that experience they had the comfort of knowing could only be acquired by that hardest of all taskmasters—Anno Domini. They might be compared to the "noble Six Hundred"—they were veterans who agreed to have a little club where they could sit with their pipe and their glass and fight their battles over again. Could there be a better ideal of a club than that? They were not rich, it was true, but they had memories which they would not sell, and nobody would sell except those who wrote books of reminiscences and stole other people's stories. They were not old-fashioned; they believed there was fine art as well as a Rhine art. They did not propose to do anything wonderful, but what they did want to do was to continue as they were, keeping the founders of the Club in and the bounders out. They were at all times anxious to welcome any of those they delighted to honour by calling "the boys"; but they must be real "boys," in the highest sense of the term, having had all the nonsense knocked out of them. With the toast he coupled the name of Mr. Harry Nicholls, the Club's hon. secretary.

The toast was received with much enthusiasm.

Mr. Harry Nicholls, who, on rising, was greeted with loud applause, said he had a very difficult task before him in following such an admirable speech as the one they had just heard. But he was encouraged by the fact that he had to speak on a subject which was very near his heart, for as they already knew, the Touchstone Club was his own child. The chairman had referred to the fact that he was the happy possessor of a duplicating machine. However, having but very little use for it, he founded the Touchstone Club, and very useful he had found that machine. It was true that members did not always reply to his letters, but then theirs was a Bohemian Club, and it was said that in the early days of the Savage no member ever thought of paying his subscription. The speaker caused considerable merriment by his description of an imaginary scene of the furtive way in which a member of the Touchstone paid his overdue subscription in a lonely street off Leicester-square. He went on to say that the task of a secretary was not generally speaking an easy one. He had had much experience in that capacity in various clubs and Masonic lodges. He was once the hon. secretary of a society numbering over 100 members, and when the annual ladies' outing came round he sent to every member full particulars of the day's programme, and giving the time the train started in the morning. He wrote a second letter asking members whether they were coming, and one gentleman wrote: "How can I possibly reply to your communication, as you have omitted to state whether it will be evening-dress." When he looked round the room on that occasion he thought he would be justified in giving himself a very favourable notice. He felt he had done something in starting that Club, for that it was going to succeed, and to be a power in the dramatic profession he was perfectly convinced. He was delighted at the way in which the subscriptions had come in: they were very little behind now, and most of the members who were in arrears were abroad. He felt that the Club was now safe. During the year there had been only six resignations and one death, but against this four new members had been elected. He was proud of his connection with the Club. In conclusion he thanked the chairman most heartily and sincerely for his charming and brilliant speech with its flashes of humour and spirit of bonhomie.

Mr. Harry Paulton proposed the health of the Visitors, coupled with the name of Mr. W. R. Walkes.

Mr. Walkes briefly responded, remarking that he had been called upon quite unexpectedly, and even an impromptu speaker required at least half a day to prepare his speech.

Mr. Robert Pateman also replied, and announced amid cheers his intention to become a member of the Club.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to an excellent impromptu entertainment, to which Mr. Harry Paulton contributed a couple of his richly humorous "lectures," Mr. Harry Nicholls recited "The Would-Be Actor's Soliloquy," Mr. Henry Bedford "Karl the Martyr," the chairman an American parody on "The yarn of the Nancy Bell," Mr. Fred Rix also gave a comic recitation, and songs were well rendered by Mr. Edward Paulton and Mr. Arlton. A very delightful reunion concluded with "Auld Lang Syne."

"ALADDIN" AT KENNINGTON.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

The pretty, amusing, and bright pantomime of "Aladdin" at the Kennington Theatre has thoroughly justified the golden opinions it won on the opening night. A visit this week, when the second edition was in full swing, revealed "Aladdin" to be one of the most entertaining productions of the year in the Metropolis. The producer, Mr. Sydney Watson, has brought to his work an expert knowledge that has enabled him to get the last ounce out of the materials at his disposal. The proprietors of the Kennington Theatre, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, have spared no expense in endeavouring to assure a merry and interesting show, and they have been ably seconded by Mr. H. B. Brandreth, the acting-manager. "Aladdin" is skilfully mounted and tastefully dressed, the scenic effects are quite a riot of colour, and above all that stagecraft can do it is teeming with good things. Its specialities still remain a strong point. Miss May Erne and Mr. Ernie Chester, in their vocal, instrumental, and dancing pot-pourri in the second act, never fail to evoke an irresistible encore. Miss Erne is a dulcimer player of decided talent, and she dances with remarkable neatness, and Mr. Chester's vocalisation in "That mysterious rag" is brilliant. The dancing of Miss Ray Espinosa and M. S. Idzikowski, from the Imperial Theatre, Warsaw, is of the rarest quality, and their turn à la Pavlova in the second act is one of the gems of the show. They display neatness and skill in their solo dances also. Other artistes who stand out for their specialities are Wheeler and Berkley, the comic Chinese policemen. They have two very popular turns, "Alias Jimmy Valentine," and "The Meaow" cat duet, and they display originality in all their work. Miss Nora Delany, as Aladdin, is one of the most attractive principal boys in London. She plays the part with a boyish naturalness that immediately arrests attention and wins her the affections of the audience. Of fascinating personality and lively humour, and endowed with a good voice, Miss Delany's future as a principal boy in pantomime should be of the brightest. This week Miss Delany has introduced a new song, "It's a long, long way from Tipperary." Her other numbers also go well, but perhaps the best are "Woolloomooloo," which is daintily treated, and "Alexander's rag-time band," with comic effects in the shape of a burlesque band. Mr. Clyde Cook, as Wishee Washee, is another member of the company who has consolidated and enhanced his reputation in this pantomime. He is quite one of the cleverest and quaintest eccentric dancers we have yet seen, and his dance accompaniments to his two songs, "Chingalingaloo" and "Mr. John Maghee," stand out among the most striking features of "Aladdin." Miss Ada Thomas makes a refined and graceful Princess Badroulbadour, enacting the rôle with real charm. Her silvery voice wins unstinted appreciation in several numbers, of which, perhaps, the ear-haunting melody of "Temple Bell" is the most attractive. Mr. Clifford Morgan has got all that is possible out of the part of Abanazar, displaying much ability. He makes a tremendous hit with the burlesque part songs, "Willy Whiskers," and "All the way from Russia." Miss Lily Vine, as Pekoe, is a second boy beyond the average. She is talented, dainty, and pretty, and her treatment of her part commands general admiration. Her two songs, "Dixie" and "In the days of the crinoline," are excellently sung. Mr Arthur Staples is a good Widow Twankey, causing a deal of merriment throughout. He has a new song this week, "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," which goes well. Mr. Harold Franklin, the Geni of the Ring, scores heavily by his singing "Oh, you beautiful doll." He dances smartly, and his work throughout is characterised by neatness and finish. Mr. Colin Coop is well placed as the Emperor, and as the Spirit of the Lamp Miss F. Manners should not be overlooked. The scenic artist to whom Kennington audiences owe the succession of beautiful stage pictures which distinguish "Aladdin" is Mr. J. M. Davis, who has put in some of his best work.

WAGNER'S "RING" IN THE COLONIES.

On Saturday last, the Quinlan Opera Company brought to a close at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, their first continuous tour of eighteen months, during which time they have travelled 43,000 miles, visiting the principal cities of the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Australia. In this period over 400 performances of grand opera have been given, and never once has the public been disappointed by the non-appearance of any particular artiste or the changing of an opera.

Having secured the rights in "The Ring of the Nibelungs" and "Die Meistersinger" during this, the centenary year of Wagner's birth, the company will present the music-dramas at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Dublin, before sailing once more for South Africa and Australia, for an extended tour, which will last over a year.

Mr. Quinlan will be the first impresario to present the entire "Ring" to the colonies, and the success of his enterprise is already assured, as large guarantees for the "cycle" have been raised in Melbourne, Sydney, and Adelaide. In addition to "The Ring," the répertoire will include twenty-five of the greatest grand operas, and the company will number over 180 artistes.

Mr. Philip Braham's company, the Grotesques, are paying the New Theatre, Oxford, a welcome return visit, opening on Monday to a full house. The company includes Vivian Foster, Hugh Bayly, Ivan Campbell, Harry Hilliard, Marjorie Blythe, Irene Greville, and Ethel Spencer.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"A SCRAPE O' THE PEN" AT LIVERPOOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

After concluding a successful run at the Comedy Theatre, London, Mr. Graham Moffat's Scottish comedy started its provincial tour by opening on Monday evening at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool. A crowded audience gave the play a hearty welcome to the Mersey city. They revelled in the broadly-drawn characters of Scottish life, and hugely enjoyed the quaint witticisms which fell from the lips of the really admirable artistes. In fact, the whole production was a treat for Liverpool playgoers, who are unaccustomed to this particular kind of fare, and nothing but gratification was expressed on all sides. The pawky humour and rough, homely manners of the Scottish peasants were not the only striking features of the comedy. There was an underlying vein of tragedy which arrested attention, and acted as a change from the many lighter episodes.

The merits of the play would certainly have lost much of their strength and effect but for the abilities of the players. It was regretted that the author and his wife were not included in the cast, they at present having a short rest, but Mr. Walter Roy and Miss Mary Finlay impersonated Mr. and Mrs. Inglis in most excellent fashion. Both were as near perfection as possible, Mr. Roy being particularly natural as the irritable, religiously inclined old man. His Mattha was a capital piece of characterisation. Mr. Watson Hume stood out prominently as the noble-hearted Hugh Menzies, the various moods of that rôle being expressed with finish and point. Miss Jean Aylwin from the moment of her first appearance gripped her audience, who throughout were charmed with her fine and sympathetic depiction of the sorely tried Jean Lowther. One who also gained early notice was Miss Margaret Noble, whose Flora McGilp pleased everybody. Her smart repartee proved an outstanding feature of the comedy. The humour was also greatly assisted by Miss Molly Hewitt, the bride, and Mr. Joseph Barker, the disillusioned bridegroom, both of whom very creditably presented their parts. Thanks were also due to Miss Agnes Miller for her thoughtful study of Mrs. Baikie, and Mr. Robert Purdie, who did well as Alec Inglis. Among the general supporters were Miss Bella Rew (Agnes. the bridesmaid), Mr. Will Jaxone (Peter Dalkeith), Miss Agnes St. Clair (Miss Pringle), and Miss Agnes Lowson (Taffy Knot). The curtain-raiser was "Till the Bells Ring," also by Mr. Graham Moffat, the characters of which were undertaken by Messrs. Watson Hume, James T. R. Lennie, Walter Roy, Miss Agnes Lowson, and Miss Carrie Glenn. There was a matinée on Wednesday.

"THE RETURN OF COLUMKILLE."

Play in Two Acts, by J. Costelloe, Played for the First Time by the Irish Historical Players, at the Hibernian Hall, Dublin, on Jan. 15.

Columkille ..... Mr. T. Loughlin
The High King ..... Mr. J. V. Whelan
Chief Bard ..... Mr. Myles Breen
Second Bard ..... Mr. J. O'Dea
Third Bard ..... Mr. T. J. Young

The production of this typically Irish piece, written by an Irishman, and enacted by Irish players, was looked forward to with considerable interest. The play is based on a well-known Irish legend, and the author has done honour to a singularly beautiful and affecting subject. The story of the banishment of Columkille, and his resolve "never to see Eirinn or her sons or her daughters," furnish the theme for many poetic efforts. Father Costelloe, in his drama, has brought out the leading lines of the story with compelling force and power. He has clothed its moving scenes and incidents with fine poetic imagery, and the conception is exalted in the fervour of religious sentiment which pervades its treatment.

The opening scene in Iona introducing the envoys of the Bards, who appeal, entreat, and upbraid Columkille in turn when he is unwilling to offend against his sentence, and come to plead for their existence, is instinct with splendid dramatic feeling. The author chooses to attribute the saint's ultimate resolve to return to a vision, and there is a fine tableau of Eire (Erin) holding forth her hands to him in mute appeal.

The second act at Drumceat is worked up to a convincing conclusion when, after the edict of suppression of the Bards has already been prepared, Columkille is led in blindfolded, and by his eloquent advocacy secures the revocation of the assembly's decision. Then, in prophetic inspiration, he foretells the tribulations, the sufferings, and the ultimate triumph of his people. The dialogue is studded here and there with sparkling epigrams, and the many eloquent speeches of Columkille are delivered by T. Loughlin with all the force and appeal of a brilliant elocutionist. His acting in the second act is indeed a revelation, and shows high histrionic ability.

Mr. J. V. Whelan was both dignified and impressive as the High King; Mr. Myles Breen as the Chief Bard, and Mr. J. D'Dea and T. J. Young as Bards, were also good, and the minor parts were acceptably rendered.

A special word of praise is due to the mounting and dressing of the piece, and that the drama is a huge success is amply testified to by the crowded and enthusiastic audience who nightly pack the hall.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT MANCHESTER.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

The good impression created on its first performance of Mr. John Hart's production of "Dick Whittington" at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, has been maintained unquestionably ever since. One is struck not only by the excellence of the show as a whole, but by the balance of opportunities provided for the players, clever and well-known artistes, who work well with each other, and who are under no obligation to assist in enhancing the brilliance of a single star. Miss Daisy Wood's peculiar fitness for the rôle of Dick, the principal boy, by her unfailing verve, and her cleverness in song and dance, is exemplified from the first scene to the last; while the refined impersonation of Alice, Fitwarren's daughter, by Miss Alice Pollard, who has an attractive presence and a cultured singing voice, remains one of the most charming features of the pantomime. The vocal successes achieved by the Sisters Reeve as Tommy and Rose, and by Miss Madge Vincent as the Fairy Bluebell, are also pleasantly maintained; and another commendable performance is that of Miss Lilian McEwen as the seductive Princess Zoe of Morocco. Among the comedians, Mr. Horace Mills as the adventurous Sarah, the cook, has opportunities which suit his style of humour as well as anything he has undertaken for a long time, and his quiet eccentricities are perhaps the chief source of entertainment, though Mr. Albert Le Fre as Alderman Fitzwarren runs him close, and is usually on the spot when anything extraordinarily comic is going on—witness, for example, the mock-domestic scene in the Diving Bell, one of the most amusing interludes of the evening. Mr. Lupino Lane's Idle Jack is remarkable chiefly for his extraordinary dancing; Messrs. Drew and Alders contribute brisk humour in their own style as Captain Bob and Bos'n Bill; Mr. Cyril Thompson's vocalism as the Emperor is worthily applauded; and Mr. Johnny Fuller as Mouser, the cat, contributes a study in animal impersonation which is as clever, attractive, and amusing as anything of the kind we have seen.

THE HILDENBOROUGH PLAYERS.

"CAPTAIN CHRIS."

Three-Act Drama, by Messrs. John Johnson and Dagney Major, Produced at Hildenborough Drill Hall, on Jan. 21.

Captain Chris ..... Mr. William Burgess
Charlton ..... Mr. George Ingram
Master Brown ..... Mr. George Killick
John Trencher ..... Mr. W. D. King
Old Michael ..... Mr. George Ford
Derrick ..... Mr. Albert Thorne
Skinner ..... Mr. Thos. Field
Master Walmesley ..... Mr. Harry Banks
Frank Mason ..... Mr. C. Crough
James Bishop ..... Mr. John Fuller
Flighty ..... Mr. Arthur Rogers
Captain Barclay ..... Mr. William Pettitt
Bully ..... Mr. Philip Fuller
Hislop ..... Mr. Geo. Hitchcock
Belton ..... Mr. Jas. Day
Dame Trencher ..... Mr. Albert Willard
Natives ..... Mr. P. Knight, Mr. John Hill

This year, with three of the original players in the cast, the Hildenborough Villagers completed the first decade of their theatrical existence. It may be assumed that there is a substantial something in an experiment which survives the test of time. The Hildenborough Players were "discovered" by enterprising London journalism, and became the vogue ten years ago. They were "written up" to a degree which was perhaps hardly justified, if appraised merely by the technique of the art. The players have, however, outlived the charm of novelty and sensationalism, and they are still producing plays which they act with all the rustic vigour which has come down to us from the play which Shakespeare interpolated in "The Midsummer Night's Dream."

The stage tradition of how Bottom and his rustic players should déclaim and attitudinise seems marvellously real when we witness the Hildenborough Players. There is no subdued force or concealed art about their full-blooded histrionic interpretation of the robust drama in which they delight to appear. And we say this in no spirit of depreciation, because their performance, from its very defects of technique, is exceedingly interesting. Even the fastidious critic, who may have tired of the discovery of rustic genius, will give the village players full credit for having achieved so much, and not exact the fuller measure which would otherwise be expected. From this point of view the performance contained much that was of merit, much of interest, and much, perhaps, to surprise and amuse, as well as admire.

To come to the play, it is of the purely melodramatic type, in which these village players, in desperate earnest with their parts, are seen at their best, or at their worst, according to the extent to which the spectator is hypercritical. The plot is a good old English one of seafaring adventure in the days of Queen Anne, and interpersed with the rollicking songs of the period. We have a story of lost treasure on a Pacific island, a sea captain cast away on the self-same island, the finding of the inevitable chart which enables the gold to be discovered, with a long-lost brother thrown in as well. The play opens in the parlour of a seaport tavern with the mugs hanging on the walls, and the jovial inmates trolling a sea chorus. Here the return of Captain Chris is discussed, and we hear the first rumours of the Spanish treasure. Captain Chris enrols a crew to go in search of his shipwrecked brother, taking with them the mysterious casket which contains the chart of the hidden treasure. In the second act we have arrived at the island, and have an affecting meeting between the two long-lost brothers. A stranger named Charlton, who had shipped with the crew, turns out to be the villain of the piece, and makes an unsuccessful effort to get the treasure first. Of course, he does not succeed, and the old inn in the seaport town witnesses in the third act the safe return of the party, and the final jollifications in good old style. It will be noticed from the cast that there are no women players. The only female part is taken by a man, which is another revival of the old English customs of the stage, to which the whole play, as we have already hinted, bears a remarkable and interesting affinity. In fact the student of how the play was acted in Shakespeare's England might get a few ideas for local colour from the Hildenborough Players with far greater facility than by any amount of antiquarian research. The interest of the production was much enhanced by the historically correct and handsome costumes supplied by John Hyman, the famous theatrical costumier, of 29, Leicester-square. It need only be added that the scenery is also the product of local talent. Mr. Geo. Johnson is responsible for this, and Mr. S. Stonely for the incidental music. Messrs. E. A. Aned and C. Crowhurst stage-managed.

THE GAY BOHEMIANS.

At the Baths Hall, Thornton Heath, on Wednesday night, the Gay Bohemians, a capital little concert party, presented by Messrs. Francis and Hamilton, gave an enjoyable entertainment. Rag-time numbers figured prominently in the programme, the inevitable "Hitchy Koo" being admirably given by the party, with Messrs. Francis and Hamilton as the principal performers. The mysterious "Ghost of the Violin," another number, if we remember rightly, popularised by those clever "boys" the Ragtime Octette, was also cleverly given by Mr. Jack Francis, with appropriately weird effects by the party; and yet another familiar ragtime number on the programme was "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee." The ragtime numbers were admirably produced by Mr. Max Brunell, and all were loudly acclaimed. Mr. Frank Dean's excellent baritone was heard with enjoyment in "The Yeoman's Wedding" and other well-known songs, and Miss Susie Barrington sang "Cigarette" and "Oh, Bunty," to the evident delight of the audience.

Miss Marian Forman was encored for her dainty delivery of "The Girl with the Brogue," an elusive colleen who plays havoc with the hearts of the "bhoys," and danced neatly, contributing other expressively rendered numbers; and the duet, "Follow your leader," sung by Jack Francis and Jack Hamilton, was a merry contribution.

Mr. Hamilton distinguished himself greatly in a "Water Scene," wherein he drolly burlesqued the methods adopted by operatic vocalists when the stout soprano is supposed to be drowning; and also joined Miss Susie Barrington in a coster duet, "Lovely." Of the concerted numbers, "Five little boys from school" was perhaps the most humorous, and was really excellently worked; "Swank" was also a diverting number, to the success of which all the hard-working little party contributed. Many other popular and effectively rendered songs figured on the diversified and enjoyable programme. Mr. Barry Watts, as a clumsy comedy waiter at the café where the artistes are supposed to be appearing, made the most of the opportunities offered for creating merriment and also gave an eccentric musical interlude. Mention must be made of the invaluable work of the accompanist, Miss Amy Marlow, and the excellent orchestra under the direction of Mr. A. G. Pitman.

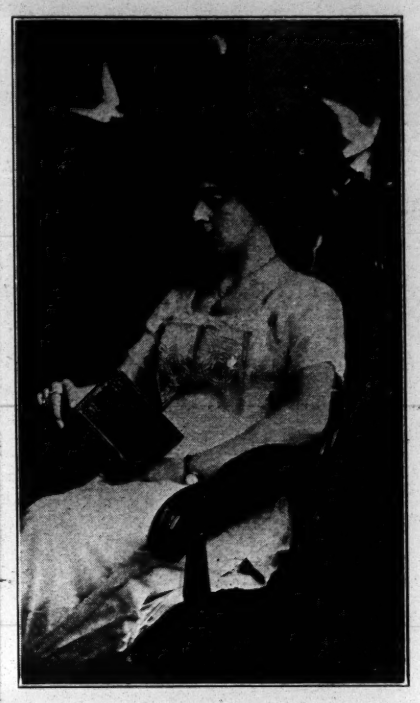
The Entertainment Committee of the Gravesend Town Council invite offers from concert parties and entertainers for the tenancy of the concert stage and enclosure on the promenade, Gravesend, during the summer season of 1913. Further particulars can be obtained of Mr. H. H. Brown, Town Clerk, Gravesend.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS ELIZABETH ROSSLYN.

The first engagement fulfilled by Miss Elizabeth Rosslyn was that of a comedy part in the farcical comedy, "The March Hare," by her brother, Harold Smith. The piece ran six months in the provinces, and obtained highly eulogistic notices. A special week in town led to the young actress being engaged by Mr. H. V. Neilson in "The House Opposite," in which she played Lady Muriel, and at the end of the run she was engaged for a special répertoire week at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, during which she played Anna in "A Doll's House," Emily in "Life's Importance," a Queen's Messenger in "Tintagiles," and Grace in "Six and Eightpence." Her next tour was in a costume play, "For the King," in which she acted Dorothy Vernon.

Afterwards Miss Rosslyn took an important step in her career, and went to His Majesty's, where she "walked on" in "Macbeth," was Miss Frances Dillon's second understudy, and officiated in



[Photo by Foulsham and Banfield
MISS ELIZABETH ROSSLYN.

the same capacity for Miss Clare Greet in "The War God." Her first part in town was that of the parlourmaid in "Man and Superman," at the Criterion, under Mr. Robert Loraine's management, which was followed by Spink in "98.9." Recently she has been winning added success on tour as Hwah Kwee in "The Cat and the Chrub." As an amateur Miss Rosslyn has played Norah in "Waterloo," Mme. Vinard in "Trilby," Miss Hickson in "Liberty Hall," Molly in "Mice and Men," and Amy in "Cousin Kate."

"NICELY, THANKS!" TRANSFERRED.

The success which attended "Nicely, Thanks!" during its matinée season at the Strand since Boxing Day, has led Mr. Louis Meyer to transfer his "venture in vaudeville" to the evening bill at the Comedy, where the Scamps and the Tatlers, who provide the entertainment, were welcomed by an appreciative audience on Monday. The performance is essentially bright and sparkling, and not a dull moment is perceptible. Each member of the troupe is an artist, and as all work with unfailing spirit to promote the enjoyment of the audience, the desired result is achieved throughout.

The best features of the programme which did duty at the Strand are retained, and the additional items are quite up to the standard of the others. The work of Mr. Wolseley Charles, both as composer and executant, occupies a prominent place in the programme, and he is responsible for the majority of the numbers. The opening chorus, "The captain and the private," in which he takes part with Messrs. Herbert Burney, Mason Wood, Leslie Henson, and Louis Rihll, is from his pen, and goes as smartly as ever. He is also the author of "Our dear little Y.M.V.A.," in which Mr. Louis Rihll and Leslie Henson give a taste of their quality as comedians with the happiest results. Mr. Jackson Potter's deep and musical baritone is heard in "A Dinder Courtship," to the melody of which he gives full value. The quartet, "Oh! Mr. Editor," provides opportunity for the humour of Misses Cynthia Cooper, Dora Dolaro, Pattie O'Hanlon, and Joan Ritz, of which they readily avail themselves.

The sweet contralto of Miss O'Hanlon is effectively displayed in a racy little Irish song, rendered with all the necessary vivacity. Miss O'Hanlon has a voice of exquisite quality, and the ease and distinctness with which she sings enhances its charm. Miss Betty Hyde also obtained a well-merited encore for "The cuckoo," to which she responded with an equally happy selection. "The lantern and the moth," sung by Miss Dolaro, brings with it a number of novel lighting effects. The "Slumberland" song of Mr. Mason Wood, and the pianoforte imitations given by Mr. Wolseley Charles, are also greatly enjoyed.

Diverting items of the entertainments are the "Zig-a-Zags," which are skilfully worked by the company with Messrs. Louis Rihll and Leslie Henson as the leading spirits. The miniature burlesques, including Leslie Henson's stump speech on Socialism, are very amusing, and the satire of the Village Choir is excruciatingly funny, and is conducted to an accompaniment of hearty laughter. "Nicely, Thanks!" furnishes a notable contribution to the entertainments of London, and should by no means be missed.

We see that Mr. George Dance, the well-known theatrical proprietor, was awarded £20 damages from Messrs. Pickford, carriers, at the Westminster County Court on Friday for non-delivery to time of a number of theatrical properties that had been assigned to them for carriage between London and Lowestoft in connection with the production on August Bank Holiday of "The Quaker Girl" at Lowestoft. The ladies' dresses and other wardrobes arrived, but the scenery did not. Mr. Dance had duplicates of the scenery, and managed to get them to Lowestoft just in time.

The defence was that the two lorries, one containing the scenery, and the other the dresses and wardrobes, were duly sent out, but the second lorry, containing the scenery, was refused at Bishopsgate-street according to the carman, because he had not the permit required if theatrical properties were sent to the railway station for carriage after 2.30 on Saturdays. The permit, it was alleged, was refused on the ground that the application was made too late. Judgment was entered for the plaintiff on the claim, with costs, and for the defendants on the counter-claim for £15 for services rendered, which was admitted, without costs.

WINTER TROUBLES AND THEIR CURE.

BY "COUNTRYMAN."

Everyone knows the havoc wrought by water when it freezes in a pitcher or earthenware crock, due to the sudden expansion of the water molecules the instant the temperature in the vessel reaches 32 degrees Fahrenheit (zero degrees Centigrade). This sudden expansion of the molecules, when they change their form from a liquid to a solid state, can in no way be overcome, and to this is due the trouble.

Therefore the wise motorist who uses his car during the winter months must take some precaution by which his water system will not freeze and become damaged; or, in other words, add to the water in the cooling system some anti-freeze ingredient, which, when mixed with water, will lower the freezing point as much below 32 degrees Fahrenheit as will be necessary to overcome such trouble, as the climatic conditions necessitate.

There are several things which can be used as anti-freeze compounds, and the most available are calcium chloride, glycerine, and alcohol, or mixtures of any two or three of these; however, each or any must be used intelligently, or the after results may prove expensive.

In the first place, the use of the proper proportions of calcium chloride, glycerine, and alcohol will cause a scale deposit in the water system of the car, thus preventing the essential radiation of the heat therefrom, and in many instances clogging up the system, making more trouble and expense. Moreover, the solution will soften and rot the rubber hose connections in the water system, and, in addition, cause a very disagreeable odour. Then, again, the mixture is expensive, as the price of calcium chloride and glycerine is high, and both of them must be chemically pure.

A mixture of glycerine and alcohol not only has a very disagreeable odour, but will deposit a gummy substance, which is very hard to remove from the water system. This is probably due to the fact that glycerine is made from fats. It will also soften the hose connections, so that when spring comes they must be renewed. Then, too, the mixture is expensive, as glycerine is quite high in price.

With the use of alcohol alone, there is none of the above outlined disadvantages. The question remains, however, as to which is the best kind of alcohol to use. In the first instance, grain and wood alcohols are eliminated, owing to their price being higher than denatured alcohol, which retails about one-fourth the cost of grain and one-half the cost of wood alcohol.

In the writer's personal experience with denatured alcohol, he found it to be satisfactory in every way.

There are two ways of mixing the alcohol with water in the circulating system.

The first is to remove all the water from the car, measure it, then make up in a bucket the proper proportions of water and alcohol which will best be suited for the temperature of the climate wherein the car is to be used, and fill the water system with this mixture.

Another way is to add the necessary amount of alcohol to the water already in the car, after having removed the excess of water which will not be required, and add the alcohol while the engine is running and the water circulating, thus thoroughly mixing them together.

During the winter it will be found necessary to keep adding to the anti-freeze solution, as the alcohol will evaporate faster than the water. The best way to ascertain whether the mixture is still of proper strength is to invest in an instrument called a "Freezometer." This instrument will instantly show the exact condition of the water and alcohol in the system, when it is no trouble at all to add the necessary amount of water and alcohol to bring the anti-freeze mixture back to its proper or normal condition.

Engine Missing.

This missing of explosions occasions such annoyances and waste, and does the car no good; the causes are many and varied; some are common and easily located, while others are obscure and rarely encountered.

Probably the sooted spark plug is the most common cause of missed explosions, especially with the beginner, who has recovered from the supposition that more petrol gives more power. The detection of this trouble is sometimes complicated by the fact that soot may be deposited on the plug at certain throttle openings and burn off again at others, owing to inherent imperfection in the carburetter, or because the user does not regulate it properly. Much could be said on the adjustment of carburetters; it would be out of place to attempt to cover the ground here, but reference to the subject may furnish a hint to those who need it to look in that direction. An external spark gap may be used to make the spark jump between the plug points, but it is by all means better to remove the cause of sooting.

Other causes of missing are weak battery; loose primary circuit connections; primary wires not well insulated; timer worn or loose; vibrator not in good adjustment; vibrator contacts in need of dressing; poor timer ground; warped switch base.

There may be a leak in the high tension cables; to find this they should be examined in the dark with the engine running. The spark plug points may be either too far apart or too near together; 1/32 to 1/64 of an inch is the distance often recommended. Water may be between the plug points; the plug insulation may be cracked or punctured; the spark coil may be broken down.

There may be too little or too much petrol feed; the petrol may have water in it; a petrol pipe or some small passage in the carburetter may be clogged; it can often be dislodged by opening the needle valve a turn or two, then closing to ordinary position.

Leaky inlet valve; inlet valve spring weak; leak around the inlet valve stem; lack of valve stem clearance; valve stem gummed; inlet valve setting not right; a leak in inlet manifold.

Exhaust valve leaking compression; exhaust valve spring weak; too little clearance between exhaust valve stem and tappet; exhaust valve set wrong; exhaust choked, probably by clogged muffler.

Broken, worn, or gummed piston rings; piston ring cuts in line; piston head or cylinder interior worn, cracked, or scored; lack of cylinder lubrication.

The magneto may be at fault; to test for this use the battery instead.

Obstructed air passage; perhaps from dust-clogged air strainer; too small opening in manifold gasket.

It will be frequently noted that at certain speeds the engine will run with perfect regularity, while at others it will persist in skipping. It will invariably miss if throttled enough, and this is not to be wondered at when we remember that the exhaust is at best far from complete, and that with an engine having an ordinary compression space 25 per cent. of the "pure" charge is, under the best possible conditions, composed of burnt gas, and if throttled to take in only one-third the capacity of the cylinder, there are equal parts of burned and fresh gas.

Chassis and Body.

It is questionable whether, in the effort to produce a very wide range of bodies with but one or two chassis designs, many makers have not seriously overstepped the mark. It is certain that such efforts have often resulted more or less unfortunately in the past, and there is little to indicate that such will not prove to be the case with some present models.

For perfectly harmonious design, a chassis can be considered as properly adapted to but one load and one method of load distribution. Bodies that do not materially affect the total weight on tyres, and that do not materially affect the distribution of that load well may be considered interchangeable. But as between very light and very heavy bodies, or those built for two and seven passengers respectively, it is obvious that one or the other must place the chassis at a marked disadvantage.

Fitting a limousine body to a stockily built five or seven passenger car is well enough for the somewhat restricted uses of the average motorist's winter work—that is, provided the springs are suitably reinforced to carry the added weight of a closed body. But when it comes to fitting out an enclosed car with a light two-passenger body for vacation purposes, hard riding and an unruly car to drive are almost certain to result.

Just in the same way, the maker who attempts to make a single chassis carry too great a variety of loads is treading on thin ice. Purchasers of one, possibly two, of his models are likely to get good results. Purchasers of the remaining types are almost equally apt to turn out dissatisfied customers and go another way in seeking their next new cars.

Squeaks.

One hopeful little sign that makers are disposed not to despise the day of small things is the appearance of anti-rattling devices on the doors of some of the newer cars. Rattling doors were bad enough in all conscience in the days when there were but two doors to a car, but with four doors to add to the din of loose parts the consequences of neglect in this particular are too great to be well overlooked.

In the search for the silent body further headway has been made by those makers who employ either felt or leather buffer strips between body and frame sills, and in general wherever load-bearing members and purely finished parts are brought into contact. It is just as necessary to recognise that relative movement must occur in such places as between the frame and the power plant. Yet in the past many a maker has carefully provided three-point support for the engine and gear set, so that the frame might yield to stress, and has then attempted to superpose a body of naturally inflexible construction. Under the circumstances is there any wonder that old bodies squeak?

Power Economics.

One cause for rejecting the electric vehicle, as compared with the petrol machine, has frequently been the relatively high cost of current during the bad weather of winter, and particularly when snow is on the ground. But, as was pointed out in a gathering of electric vehicle men recently, weather and highway conditions affect all types of vehicles equally.

One of the marked advantages, though purely incidental, of the electric is that its instruments, which must be observed at frequent intervals, afford an absolute indication of the energy consumption of the machine. It is true that under extreme conditions the current consumption of the electric may amount to figures that are out of all proportion to normal operation, but the fact is emphasised, not so much in the bills for current, but when compared with the total cost of operation, as in the circumstances that the jump in consumption is visible on the dials of the volt ammeter. Unfortunately for the economical operation of the petrol machine, no such constant reminder is present, and operators have a careless habit of paying full bills monthly, without special regard to the precise relation of those bills to mileage travelled and tonnage hauled. More power to the electric as a means of educating the user to a more critical consideration of the economics belonging to his business.

MISS ADELE LEVEY'S BIRTHDAY CONCERT.

In the Clavier Hall of the Arts and Dramatic Club, on Tuesday evening, Miss Levey gave a most enjoyable programme of recitations and music, to the delight of a large audience. In four little poems, which included, by special request, that charming set of verses, entitled "A smile" (composed by her brother, Mr. Sivori Levey), Miss Adèle was heard at her best, and later in the evening told some extremely amusing short stories. Assisting Miss Levey were several well-known artistes, among whom Miss Maie Hoey sustained with cleverness and sympathy the character of Sydney Carton, in five scenes, from Dickens' "Tale of Two Cities," and later showed her skill as an actress in some clever comedy as Queen Elizabeth to Mr. Sivori Levey's "Shakespeare." Among others who contributed to the pleasure and success of the evening were Mr. Gower, with his banjo, rendering the overture from Balfe's "Bohemian Girl"; Leo Cohnreich, in several songs, accompanying himself at the piano; and Miss Francesca Woolf, a 'cellist who gained a well-merited encore after playing the Hungarian Rhapsody, and rendering the Intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana" in response thereto. Mr. Victor Scoble was most amusing with his "Manipulations du Chapeau," and Mr. Hal Hurzt is to be congratulated on his rendering in character of "Grandfather Smallweed," from Dickens' "Bleak House."

Mme. Paquin, the head of the famous house of Paquin, has been decorated with the *légion d'honneur*.

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree left London on Thursday on a visit to Russia, where he will study the art and methods of the Russian stage. Sir Herbert, who will be accompanied by one of his stage-managers, Mr. Stanley Bell, will go first to St. Petersburg, and then to Moscow, where he will visit the famous Art Theatre. This will conclude the tour of study of the principal theatres of Europe and America, which the long run of "Drake" has enabled Sir Herbert to make.

Sir Herbert has been inundated with requests from various troops of boy scouts to let them witness Mr. Parker's play at His Majesty's Theatre. It was impossible to deal with these singly, so Sir Herbert has now arranged a special matinée performance for Boy Scouts on Friday, February 7. For the occasion the artistes have, without exception, generously volunteered their services. The competition for seats is extraordinarily keen, and as there are 20,000 Boy Scouts in the London associations the tickets are being allotted in accordance with the troops' numerical strength.

Mr. Cyril Maude, his admirers will be sorry to hear, goes to New York in October to appear there under the direction of Messrs. Liebler and Company, remaining for five months, and returning to England in the spring of next year. He will open in New York, and probably visit some of the principal cities in the United States and in Canada later on. Mr. Maude is one of the team of ten men which the "Daily Express" is selecting to shoot against an equal number of women for a miniature rifle challenge trophy.

Mr. George Edwardes has returned from his little tour on the Continent looking remarkably fit and well, and ready to act as one of the judges in "The Era" play competition.

The popular manager has settled upon the piece that is to succeed "The Sunshine Girl" at the Gaiety soon after Easter. It is an adaptation of "Filmzauber" ("The Wonder of Films"), a comic opera which was produced at the Berliner Theatre in the autumn of last year and has been running ever since. As may be inferred from the title the story circles round the cinematograph and there are some diverting situations. The adaptation will be made by Mr. J. T. Tanner, and several additions will be made to the German score.

Miss Gertrude Kingston has selected the evening of Feb. 4 for the production at the Little of Mr. Gilbert Cannan's adaptation from the Italian entitled "Three," a number which accounts for the whole of the cast with the exception of a couple of quite subsidiary characters. The "eternal triangle" again figures in the piece, but this time is treated from a humorous point of view. The principals, in addition to Miss Kingston, will be Mr. Ben Webster and Mr. A. Scott Craven.

Four leading ladies—namely, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Lillah McCarthy, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan—have already lent distinction to the heroine of Mr. J. M. Barrie's "Twelve Pound Look" and on the removal of Mr. Frederick Harrison's composite bill from the Haymarket to the Duke of York's on Feb. 10 the part will have still another distinguished exponent, the character then being essayed by Miss Kate Moffatt, the famous "Bunty." The overbearing baronet will be played by Mr. A. G. Poulton for the first time, and Miss Minnie Terry will gain be seen in the rôle of the submissive wife.

"The Son and Heir" will be presented by Mr. Louis Meyer at the Strand next Saturday. Miss Gladys Unger's piece is in four acts, and the scene is laid in various departments of a baronet's country house in Hertfordshire. Miss Ethel Irving will play the chief part, Mr. Edmund Maurice will be the baronet, and the cast will further comprise Messrs. Max Leeds, Norman Trevor, Raymond Lauzerte, Reginald Owen, Bobbie Andrews, Charles Daly, and Lambert Plummer, and Misses Cynthia Brooke, Ethel Dane, Jean Cadell, and Mary Griffiths. The piece will be produced by Mr. Clifford Brooke.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith will shortly produce at the Globe Theatre a new three-act farce by a new author, Mr. Thomas Lee. The title is not yet settled. Mr. Grossmith, by the way, has written his reminiscences, which Mr. John Lane will publish on the 28th inst., under the title of "From Studio to Stage."

Mr. Martin Harvey made his first appearance in Huddersfield on Monday, when he opened a three nights' engagement at the Hippodrome with that staunch old favourite, "The Breed of the Treshams." A crowded and enthusiastic house on each occasion testified to the many new friends which the visit has brought Mr. Harvey and his company. On Tuesday much interest was aroused by "The Lowland Wolf," which was preceded by "Aurora's Captive," in which Miss N. de Silva shows her singular aptness for clever character work in the vein of comedy. The same plays have been given during the remainder of the week at the Theatre Royal, Halifax. Next week His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, will be visited.

Miss Marie Löhr will be one of the actresses present at the Actors' Association ball supper, which takes place on Friday, Feb. 7, at the Holborn Restaurant, and will propose the health of Sir Herbert Tree. Mr. John Mortimer, the chairman of the committee making the arrangements for this popular function, tells us the tickets are going off uncommonly well.

The whimsical little book "Behind the Night-light," which little Miss Joan Maude, aged three, wrote, and her mother, Miss Nancy Price, edited, has been made into a recitation by the editress, who will deliver it at a "twilight concert" to be given in conjunction with Madame Liza Lehmann at the Bechstein Hall on Thursday afternoon next. Miss Price will also be heard in a new costume monologue by Mr. Barry Pain, entitled "The interlude of the charwoman."

Mr. Robert Courtneidge is rehearsing the musical farce, "Oh! Oh! Delphine," for early production at the Shaftesbury, where "Princess Caprice" will conclude its run of 266 performances on Saturday. "Oh! Oh! Delphine," is the work of Mr. Ivan Caryll and Mr. C. M. S. McLellan. It has a coherent and amusing story.

Mr. Granville Barker has received a letter from a lady, who wishes to remain anonymous, offering two prizes for the best essays on the Savoy Theatre production of "Twelfth Night." One prize will go to children between the ages of twelve and sixteen and the other to children between eight and twelve, and all pupils of these ages attending the London County Council schools and any secondary schools may compete. The Vice-Provost of Eton College and Mr. Arthur Benson have consented to be the judges.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier is ever a busy man, but at the present time his day is a particularly arduous one, for, in addition to his two performances at the Coliseum, he is devoting himself energetically to rehearsals of "Trust the People," the new play by Stanley Houghton, which he will produce at the Garrick on February 6th. The cast engaged for the piece includes Mr. Herbert Bunston, Mr. James MacNally, Mr. Thomas Sydney, Mr. Thomas Weguelin, Mr. Richard Neville, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, Miss Marjorie Waterlow, Miss Barbara Gott, and Miss Viva Birkett.

Mr. H. B. Irving and company opened in Johannesburg on Thursday (Boxing Night) with "The Lyons Mail," when he received an ovation, a laurel crown being presented at the conclusion of the performance. Mr. Irving, in a few words, thanked the audience, and said that it was worth the travelling of even a greater distance to receive such a reception. About the acting the local press and public are in ecstasies.

Messrs. Herbert Shelley and John Beauchamp will shortly produce a drama with a Celtic subject in ten scenes. Mr. John Beauchamp will be seen in an "old-world" Dublin character, and Mr. Herbert Shelley will play a young Rebel. The piece will be produced under the management of Mr. Charles Gulliver.

Mr. Matheson Lang will present Miss Peggy Webling's romantic play, "Westward Ho!" based upon Charles Kingsley's romance at the Palladium, on Feb. 24, for a season of matinées. Mr. Lang and Miss Hutin Britton will be seen in the principal parts, and the remainder of the long cast will consist of Messrs. Basil N. Sydney, R. Scrope-Quentin, Halliwell Hobbes, Edward O'Neill, Sidney Vautier, Clarence Blakiston, Arthur Seaton, Eric Algar, Lewis Gilbert, F. Percival Stevens, Lionel James, Harry Ashford, David Hallam, Oliver Stanley, A. W. Andrews, Charles Blythe, A. S. Collard, Donald Young, James Plinge, W. Vallicot, J. T. Holdsworth, A. H. Steerman, George Hammond, and A. W. Tyrer, Misses Marjorie Carpenter, Nora Wynne, Beryl Hutchison, Millie L. Emden, Ethel Harper, Harriet Trench, Ethel Gray, Marion Lind, Marjorie Dane, and Dorothy Ripley.

The play, which was first produced in Johannesburg by Mr. Matheson Lang on his recent South African tour, is of an elaborate spectacular nature, and will be produced by Mr. Lang himself, with the assistance of Mr. A. W. Tyrer, who, as stage-manager for Mr. Lang's tour abroad, has rendered him valuable assistance in designing and arranging the scenery and effects. New music has been specially composed by Mr. John Ansell. Previous to the Palladium season, arrangements have been made with Miss Horniman for a fortnight's visit to the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, commencing on Feb. 3.

Amongst the audience on the first night of "Turandot" at the St. James's Theatre on Saturday were Miss Ellen Terry, Sir George and Lady Alexander, Sir Herbert Tree, Sir Arthur Pinero, Sir John and Lady Hare, Miss Gladys Unger, Mr. Norman Trevor, Miss Hilda Hanbury, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, and Mr. Henry Arthur Jones.

Mr. Keble Howard and Mr. Dick Adams will shortly start a repertory season at the Grand Theatre, Croydon. The theatre will open on April 14, and there will be a company of from twelve to sixteen players.

Mr. Thomas Beecham's winter season of grand opera and Russian ballet opens at Covent Garden on the 29th inst. The first list of subscribers for boxes and stalls is long and distinguished, and is headed by the name of King Manuel.

In the performance by the Pioneer Players under the direction of Miss Edith Craig, of Miss Cicely Hamilton's play in three acts, "A Matter of Money," on Sunday, Feb. 9, Miss Sarah Brooke will take the part of Mrs. Coventry, Mr. J. Moffat Johnston will play that of the husband, Mr. Coventry, while the name of Miss Winifred Mayo will lend particular interest to the production.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, held at the Playhouse on Tuesday, the following members were present: Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (in the chair), Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Constance Hyem, Mrs. Fred Wright, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, and Mr. A. J. Austin (hon. secretary).

The first of the Playgoers' Club's theatrical children's parties took place on Saturday at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, where nearly 3,000 little people witnessed the pantomime of "Mother Goose."

Miss May Edward Saker, who has just concluded a special engagement as Gipsy Vandelier in "The Night of the Party," has been engaged for the Sheffield Repertory season for the following parts: Gwendoline Fairfax, "The Importance of Being Earnest"; Lil, "Chains"; Violet Jackson, "Return of the Prodigal"; Mrs. Barton, "Cupid and the Styx," etc.

Mr. Trevor Langton Lane has been engaged by Doctor Hamilton Seymour for the part of Sir Arthur in his sketch entitled "The Curate's Dilemma," which is being produced at the Rehearsal Theatre on Feb. 9.

Mr. Acton Bond, general director of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, visited Brighton and Newcastle-on-Tyne on Tuesday and Friday respectively last week, the latest new branches of the society having been opened in those places. In the former, Mr. Bond presided over a crowded meeting in the Pavilion, where, in addition to scenes from "Henry VIII." and "As You Like It," with the local members taking part, he gave an address on the aims and scope of the society. At Newcastle Dr. Hadow presided over a large number of influential citizens at Armstrong College of which he is Principal, and the meeting was unanimously in favour of inaugurating a branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" will be given as a dramatic reading on Monday afternoon next at the Botanic Theatre, University College, Gower-street, W.C., by the British Empire Shakespeare Society. The cast will include Miss Margaret Halstan, Miss Rose Dupre, Miss Nora Lancaster, Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, Mr. Stanley Drewitt, Mr. Chris Walker, Mr. Arthur Hare, Mr. Howard Rose, Mr. J. Henry Twyford, Mr. Terence O'Brien, and Mr. Acton Bond.

Mr. Charles Hannan's one-act Scottish comedy, "Men is Sich Fules," the third of Mr. Hannan's series of little Scotch plays, will be produced on Monday, Feb. 3, at the Empress, Brixton, by Messrs. Herbert Ralland and Bay Russell, who will afterwards send the piece on tour. For the leading rôles Messrs. Ralland and Russell have engaged Mr. George Tawde and Miss Eva McRoberts (the original Rab and Teeny of "Bunty Pulls the Strings" at the Haymarket) and Miss Hettie Cavendish, who has already scored in more than one of Mr. Hannan's pieces.

One of the most important engagements made by Mr. W. W. Kelly for the spring season at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, after Easter, is that of "Proud Maisie," which is from the pen of the Recorder of Liverpool, Mr. Edward G. Hemmerde, K.C., M.P. The whole of the original scenery and costumes will be utilised, and the company, which is under the management of Mr. Arthur Hardy, will travel sixty strong, including a conductor, special musicians, pipers, and harpists. Everything will be done to insure a good representation of this fine Scottish play, which deals with such an interesting period as the days of "Bonny Prince Charlie."

At the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre on Tuesday next a new farcical sketch, entitled "Goggles," will be tentatively produced. It is from the pen of Mr. E. B. Norman, manager of the pantomime, "Jack Horner," now running at that establishment.

The Lyric Operatic Society are to be in occupation at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week, during which they will present "The Girl Behind the Counter."

Mr. W. W. Kelly has arranged for the transference to the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, next week of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. James E. Cardwell's pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," which has enjoyed considerable success at the Fulham Theatre. Jack is to be played by Miss Evelyn Major. Mr. William Judge is cast as Miss Pippin, the village Daisy, and Little Cluley as Tim Pippin. Miss Gertrude Orchard will play Jill, and Miss Gwennie Vaughan will appear as the Fairy Queen.

"Hamlet," the fourth volume of "B.E.S.S. Shakespeare," is just issued uniform with the other plays. At the end of the glossary the editors give a suggested reconstruction of the controversial twelve lines of Act. I. Scene I.

A new comic opera, "A Petticoat Prince," written by "Charles Winthrop," music by Mr. Bernard Johnson, will be produced on Tuesday at the Spa Opera House, Bridlington.

Mr. Donald Calthrop and Miss Muriel Martin Harvey will, besides Mr. A. E. George, play in "The Quiet Rubber" at the National Reserve matinée at the St. James's on the 31st inst.

The Brinsmead Free Open Piano Scholarship at the Modern School of Music has been gained by Millie Jackson, aged 13, a pupil of Mr. Isador Epstein, the Principal. The adjudicator was Mr. John Francis Barnett, Professor of the Royal College of Music.

Mr. Alfred Gray opened his spring tour of "The Amazons" last Thursday week at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, when Sir Arthur Pinero's brilliant farcical comedy was most enthusiastically received. On Friday night the audience included a theatre party of eighty organised by a well-known resident, who at the conclusion of the second act presented Miss V. Malcolm-Barnett with a beautiful bouquet of daffodils. This week the company is at the West Pier, Brighton, where the piece is again being played to an accompaniment of incessant laughter. Other towns to be visited include Edinburgh, Glasgow, Blackpool, Cambridge, and Eastbourne.

Mr. Alfred Denville's production of "The Miracle" is being secured at the most important provincial and suburban theatres. Among recent bookings are Her Majesty's, Aberdeen and Dundee; the Lyceum, Edinburgh; the Prince of Wales', Birmingham; the Theatre Royal, Manchester; and the Broadway, New Cross. Its production for two weeks on elaborate spectacular lines at the Olympia, Liverpool, ranks with the most important engagements entered into by Moss' Empires, Ltd., during 1913.

The stage staff of the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, "Cinderella" pantomime, through the generosity of Mr. Malcolm Scott, who is playing the Baroness, with friends went for a trip by motors on Sunday last. The rendezvous was East Bridgford, which was reached via Oxton and Lowdham, where the Knight of the Reindeer Inn provided an excellent dinner, to which everyone did justice. The party numbered 90.

Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," is beating all records at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, but must be withdrawn, owing to previous arrangements, this (Saturday) evening. On Monday Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley are to present "The Wild Girl of the Forest," of which Mrs. Kimberley is the authoress. All the scenery for this elaborate twelve-scene production has been painted at Mr. and Mrs. Kimberley's own studio at Wolverhampton.

Miss Anna Schuberth, the principal "boy" in "Cinderella" at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, was on the way to the theatre on Tuesday evening when she was knocked down by a bicycle and rendered unconscious. She recovered sufficiently to be able to reach the theatre, and though suffering greatly from shock went through her customary performance. She was badly cut about the face.

That popular American raconteuse, Miss Helen Mar, is giving in front of "Billy's Fortune," at the Criterion, a fresh instalment of her funny stories.

Mme. Kate Flinn has opened her term with some very clever pupils. Amongst them is a fine contralto, Miss Lily Clare, who should make a name for herself. Two clever little people who are studying singing and elocution with Madame Flinn are Vera Gay, who played Ting-a-ling in "Santa Claus" with great success last Saturday, and is engaged to play in "The Spielman" in February, and a charming little dancer, Mollie Poulton, who is shortly appearing at the Palladium. Amongst Mme. Flinn's sopranos are Miss Maisie Scott, now appearing in "The Golden Land of Fairy Tales," who has a beautiful voice, and is also engaged with the Beecham Opera Co.

The unusual distinction of serving for thirty years in the orchestra of the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, without being absent on a single occasion, was properly marked by his colleagues, as well as the licensee and manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton, in making Mr. F. Pridy, on Monday evening at the theatre, the recipient of a valuable chiming clock and other presents. In making the presentation Mr. Boughton gracefully acknowledged Mr. Pridy's long and loyal services, and the esteem in which he was generally held by the staff and himself.

A performance will be given at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Saturday evening, Feb. 15, arranged by Miss Floyd Ariston and Mrs. Albert Bradshaw, in aid of the Children's Dinner Fund, the chief items on the programme being "The Masque of St. Valentine" and three new short plays, "The Experiment," by Mrs. Albert Bradshaw; "After Good-night," by H. G. Willis; and "Find the Man," by Sherril Schell, the last being a typical American farce, performed for the first time in England. Miss Floyd Ariston will contribute some of her rag-time songs.

'TURANDOT, PRINCESS OF CHINA.'

Chinoiserie in Prose and Verse, in Three Acts, by Karl Vollmoeller, English Version by Jethro Bithell, Music by Ferruccio Busoni, Produced at the St. James's Theatre on Jan. 18, 1913.

Altoum ..... Mr. J. H. Barnes
Pantalone ..... Mr. Edward Sass
Tartaglia ..... Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds
Brigella ..... Mr. Fred Lewis
Truffaldino ..... Mr. Norman Forbes
Calaf ..... Mr. Godfrey Tearle
Barak ..... Mr. James Berry
Prince of Samarkand .... Mr. Austin Fehrman
Ishmael ..... Mr. Alfred Harris
Executioner ..... Mr. W. E. Hall
Turandot ..... Miss Evelyn D'Alroy
Adelma ..... Miss Hilda Moore
Zelima ..... Miss Maire O'Neill
Skirina ..... Miss Margaret Yarde
Muley-wa ..... Miss Mary Clare
Tien-wa ..... Miss Margaret Chute
Kin ..... Miss Susie Claughton
Yen-Shing ..... Miss Stella Rho

"Turandot" is a thing not to be analysed, but enjoyed. It reminds one in a far-off way of some of the fantastic comedies of Alfred de Musset. It goes back to the elemental attractions of drama—the ultra-simplicity of story, the naïf, unconscious cruelty of childhood, its open, unblushing absurdity, its joy in prettiness, and sparkling finery, and tinkling, tantalising sounds. There is something in it of the Pierrot, of Harlequin, of Hoffmann. It is fantastic, fascinating, and *rococo*. We ought to take it in the spirit in which it was written, to abandon ourselves to its charm without arrière-pensée, and to cherish it without a qualm.

"Turandot, Princess of China," as the programme at the St. James's tells us, is an instance of evolution in art and the interplay of the mutual influence of the story-teller, the dramatist, and the composer. The origin of the work is one of the Persian tales contained in "A Thousand and One Days," attributed to a Persian Dervish Monk of the thirteenth century, the English version of which, by Justin Huntly McCarthy, was published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus in 1892. The story of the "Chinese Princess, Turandot," was converted into a comedy by the famous Italian writer of the eighteenth century, Carlo Gozzi, and the far-famed composer-pianist, Mr. Ferruccio Busoni, took this as the basis for an orchestral suite. This music—which is weirdly fascinating—so impressed Dr. Karl Vollmoeller as peculiarly illustrating the spirit of the old play, that he resolved to use the plot as the foundation for a fantastical comedy. The work was produced by Professor Reinhardt at the Deutsches Theatre, Berlin, on Oct. 27, 1911. Sir George Alexander was present at the first performance, and, having secured the performing rights for England, commissioned Mr. Jethro Bithell to provide an English adaptation.

This adaptation has been excellently done, the poetical parts of the play being very neatly rendered. We must not too hastily assume that the "comic relief" has been introduced by the adapter. On the contrary, its primitive drollery is quite in keeping with the rest of the piece. Does not the funny farm bailiff, Maître Blazius, in "On ne badine pas avec l'amour," come in on a donkey?

Turandot, the Princess of China, is, or believes herself to be, a man-hater. She shrinks in repulsion from the "ruddy offices of love," and to protect herself from male contact and supremacy, she has devised the plan of submitting to each suitor three complicated riddles. Those who compete, and cannot answer them, suffer death. To the city of Pekin comes Calaf, Prince of Astrakan. He sees the Princess's portrait, falls in love with her forthwith, and goes in for the prize.

Before the assembled Court the Princess asks Calaf her riddles, and he answers them correctly. Overcome with mortification and rage, Turandot beseeches the Emperor that she may be permitted to ask three more questions on the morrow, but this request the Emperor refuses. The Prince, however, touched by her chagrin, proposes that he should ask her a question, and if she answers it correctly on the following day, she shall be free and he will kill himself. Turandot gladly accepts; and Calaf asks her, "Who is that King's son, and of what stock is he, who was a beggar, porter, menial, yet in good fortune more unfortunate?"—the story of his own adventures.

In the second act Turandot endeavours to find the answer to the riddle. She perceives that Calaf himself is the man referred to, and she concentrates her energy on finding out his antecedents.

The Emperor locks Calaf up in the palace; but Turandot's slave, Zelima, creeps in and begs him to tell her his name and station, assuring him that if he will do so the Princess will welcome him on the morrow. Then Truffaldino, the Chief of the Harem, enters and places a mandragora root under the Prince's pillow, believing that it will cause Calaf to talk in his sleep and disclose his secrets. Both attempts fail. Next Turandot's favourite slave, Adelma, a captive Tartar Princess, who is secretly enamoured of Calaf, and would rather he died than the Princess should have him, comes and tells Calaf that Turandot has ordered him to be assassinated as he leaves the palace, and that the only way to save his life will be to fly with her at once. The Prince is not to be moved, but, in his answers, inadvertently reveals to her his identity. Thus Turandot is enabled to triumph and solve Calaf's riddle. He in despair attempts to stab himself, but the Princess, who has been touched by his magnanimity, and who is not such a man-hater after all, arrests his hand, and cries, "You shall live for me."

A piece of this sort requires to be mounted, dressed, and acted to perfection; the slightest hitch or flaw would be fatal to its effect. Sir George Alexander's production at the St. James's is unimpeachable. The scenery, the costumes, and the details are indescribable in the space at our command; collectively, they have a refined oddity and bizarre beauty which are irresistible. The acting is excellent. Mr. J. H. Barnes gives to the part of the Emperor Altoum both the necessary dignity and the indispensable comic inflexion; Mr. Godfrey Tearle is a very handsome and gallant Prince Calaf, and speaks his lines with the musical distinctness and fervent earnestness of the school to which his famous family belongs; and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy suggests both the fastidious aristocracy of the Princess, and her essential womanhood, and delivers her verse most clearly and cleverly. Mr. James Berry puts an immense amount of energy and feeling into the remonstrances of Barak; and Miss Hilda Moore is passionate and expressive as the Tartar Princess. The comic quartet—Pantalone, Tartaglia, Brigella, and Truffaldino—are very drolly represented by Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. Fred Lewis, and Mr. Norman Forbes; Mr. Austin Fehrman depicts the unlucky Prince of Samarkand with dignity; and Mr. Alfred Harris gives full value to Ishmael's burst of sorrow and despair. Miss Maire O'Neill plays Zelima intelligently and agreeably; and Miss Margaret Yarde is distinctly good as Skirina; the Slaves of the Harem having pretty and dainty "depictresses" in Miss Mary Clare, Miss Margaret Chute, Miss Susie Claughton, and Miss Stella Rho. "Turandot" is an entertainment for epicures. We should not like to subsist on such entirely; but they are exquisitely enjoyable at intervals. It may be a quasi-failure or a second "Kismet"—there is no telling.

"ESTHER CASTWAYS."

Play, in Four Acts, by Jerome K. Jerome, Produced at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

Esther Castways ..... Miss Marie Tempest
Philip Castways ..... Mr. Arthur Wontner
John Farrington ..... Mr. W. Graham Browne
Jocelyn Penbury ..... Miss Marie Polini
Virginia Grey ..... Miss Rowena Jerome
Reuben Pierce ..... Mr. Charles V. France
Mr. Jackson-Tillett .. Mr. Ernest Mainwaring
Mrs. Jackson-Tillett .. Miss Kate Serjeantson
Miss Lechmere ..... Miss Sybil Carlisle
Jimmy Allingham ..... Mr. Stafford Hilliard
Stephens ..... Mr. Horton Cooper
Hodgson ..... Miss Drusilla Wills
Manservant ..... Mr. Montague Elphinstone

"I should hate a man without faults, giving himself airs all over the house," says Esther Castways, heroine of Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's new play, produced at the Prince of Wales' Theatre on Tuesday night. Esther's husband was not without faults. One of his chief failings was "a curiosity concerning mud," which, in spite of his obvious devotion to his wife, had led him into a very serious entanglement with a naughty little widow, who posed as unsuspecting Esther's dearest friend in order that she might the more successfully deprive her of her husband. Esther had two "grandes passions"—one for her husband and the other for the cause for which he was working, the abolition of child labour in the cotton mills of America. Esther was not of her husband's class; she came "of the people," and knew through bitter experience of the miseries endured by the little slaves of the mills. The sound of their "thin unending sobbing" still rang in her ears, although since her marriage she had had "ten years of the most beautiful life a woman ever had." Philip Castways had enemies, men who for their own reasons desired to frustrate his work, and it is from one of them, a religious fanatic, Reuben Pierce, who had loved Esther since her childhood, that the wife learns of her husband's infidelity. At first she scornfully refused the information, and, indeed, convinced Reuben that it was false; but Esther was no self-deluding fool, and in a skilfully written scene she made her husband convict himself, and admitting that he had been a "weak, contemptible fool," implore her forgiveness. This she accords very tenderly, very gently, with a "Good-night, you naughty boy," as he hurries off to catch a night train.

Esther's solitude is soon rudely disturbed by the tempestuous Reuben, who tells her that Philip's journey is a "blind," and that he is at that very moment on his way to Mrs. Penbury's flat. Esther, catching sight of a strange latch-key dropped by her husband, wonders if her forgiveness has been a little premature, hastily dons a most unbecoming hat and circular cloak, tells the servants not to wait up for her, and lets herself into her rival's flat—loaned to the lady by a "bold bad man," John Farrington—just as the pretty widow has attired herself in the diaphanous wrap in which the stage adventuress always meets her lover. The two women fight with their best weapons, their tongues—the one for her lover and all the luxuries he can give her, the other not for her husband—"if he no longer loves me I don't want to keep him"—but for his reputation, which once dragged in the mire must deprive the children of their champion. The wife wins, and the other woman departs, leaving her in possession. She is about to burn some incriminating letters of her husband's which have been presented to her by the repentant adventuress, when a knock comes at the door, which opens to disclose, not Philip, but the bold, bad John Farrington, the owner of the flat. John is another of Philip's enemies, not because he loves Esther, but because he has many shares in cotton mills and objects to dwindling dividends. John demands the letters; Esther naturally refuses to surrender them, though John threatens to ruin her reputation by allowing them to be discovered together in his flat. An inspiration comes to Esther—if her reputation be lost, her husband's is no longer in jeopardy. She will sacrifice herself for the sake of the children, and Philip, with cause for divorce, will be free to marry the other woman. The heart of the bold, bad man is touched by the magnitude of her abnegation; he vows that she is "the grandest little woman he ever met," and that he will defend her to the death. So virtue becomes its own reward. Esther is received by the "best society," her husband is restored to her, slightly soiled, but very affectionate and repentant, and the curtain falls on their reconciliation, with the proposal, "Let's have another try, shall we?"

Mr. Jerome's play will benefit by some judicious cutting, which will prevent the occasional dragging that was noticeable on the first night. The chief merit of this by no means uninteresting play is the magnificent opportunity it affords Miss Marie Tempest. It is a long time since Miss Tempest has run us through the whole gamut of emotions as she does as Esther Castways. She is everything in turn—the exquisite comedienne; her husband's "best pal," all that is most alluring and most feminine; the "woman of the people," conscious of her own shortcomings, despising the fine folk she must endeavour to imitate; and then the tragic little woman, fighting for her husband and her cause desperately, pitying her adversary with all the strength of her great heart, and winning because she pities her. It is always the same with Marie Tempest; each time that she essays a new rôle she surpasses expectations. The charm of her personality is great, her genius is beyond criticism. Miss Tempest has the most admirable support in Mr. Graham Browne, clever, intelligent, polished as John Farrington, a part that might easily become negligible, but to which Mr. Graham Browne gives an enviable distinction; in Mr. Charles V. France, an actor of great versatility, whose Reuben Pierce will remain a type of a religious fanatic, fiery, sincere, and self-analytical; and in Miss Kate Serjeantson, one of the finest grandes dames of the present time, inimitable in her gracious dignity and aristocratic patronage. Much interest is attached to the first appearance of Miss Rowena Jerome, the author's daughter, who makes a very agreeable impression as an exceedingly competent secretary, much in love with a fatuous young man, Jimmy Allingham, pleasantly played by Mr. Stafford Hilliard. Mr. Arthur Wontner does all that can be done with the part of the unsympathetic and rather stilted husband; Miss Marie Polini is brilliantly successful as the naughty widow; and Miss Drusilla Wills imparts a touch of strong character very clearly and cleverly defined to the rôle of the treacherous maid. Miss Sybil Carlisle is sweet and charming in a very small part; Mr. Ernest Mainwaring is delightfully humorous as a husband; Mr. Horton Cooper is the most dignified butler imaginable; and Mr. Montague Elphinstone is quite satisfactory as a manservant.

At the fall of the curtain there were loud cries for the author, to whom Miss Marie Tempest promised to convey the favourable verdict of the audience, adding that Mr. Jerome was not in the house, but was spending a pleasant evening at the Empire.

Mr. Pennington-Gush, who has lately concluded a long autumn tour as Peter Waverton in "Passers-By," has been engaged by Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter to play Mr. Gerald du Maurier's part in "Doormats" on the forthcoming suburban and provincial tour of Mr. Hubert Henry Davies' play.

"THE HEADMASTER."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Wilfred T. Coleby and Edward Knoblauch, Produced at the Playhouse on Wednesday, Jan. 22.

The Rev. Cuthbert Sanctuary ..... Mr. Cyril Maude
Portia ..... Miss Margery Maude
Antigone ..... Miss Kathleen Jones
Jack Strahan ..... Mr. Edward Combermere
Munton ..... Mr. John Harwood
The Rev. the Hon. Manford Wilton ..... Mr. Charles Bibby
The Hon. Mrs. Grantley .. Miss Frances Ivor
Palisser Grantley ..... Mr. Arthur Curtis
Richards Major ..... Mr. Jack Hobbs
Jim Stuart ..... Master Eric Rae
Bill Etheridge .....Master Kendrick Huxham

It is a piquant commentary on the estimation in which education is held in England that the stage schoolmaster is invariably comic. The Rev. Cuthbert Sanctuary, the headmaster of Carchester School, is both amusing and amiable. He is a widower with two daughters, a charming and capable maiden named Portia, and a juvenile called Antigone. The Rev. Cuthbert has one weakness — he is ambitious. A bishopric seems likely to be made immediately vacant by the death of its present proprietor, and the headmaster covets the preferment. There is a chance of his obtaining it by the influence of the Hon. Mrs. Grantley, a pompous, managing woman of the Mrs. Proudie type, who has relations in power; and as Mrs. Grantley's silly son, Palisser, an assistant at Carchester School, is in love with Portia, Mrs. G. is disposed to work the little "job" of the bishopric if the Rev. Cuthbert will promise to engage Palisser as bishop's chaplain. These plans are disarranged by the love of Portia for a handsome young assistant master named Jack Strahan. The pair confess their passion to the Rev. Cuthbert, and Strahan goes off to seek his fortune and win a position which will permit him to marry Portia.

Such is the situation of affairs when an amusing misunderstanding springs up between the headmaster and Mrs. Grantley. He talks to her of her son's proposal for Portia; and she jumps to the conclusion that he is asking her to marry him, and accepts him before he can repudiate the suggestion. Her brother the Dean is so delighted to get rid of his sister, who keeps house for him, that he encourages the error; and as Mrs. Grantley is not only practically the patron of the bishopric, but is also very rich, the headmaster is overborne and overtempted, and succumbs to superior forces.

Henceforward his doubts and distresses increase. He resigns his headmastership, and yet is not episcopated. He doesn't want to marry Mrs. Grantley, and he doesn't know how to escape doing so. Strahan returns and complicates the situation, which becomes amusingly embarrassing, until, at last, Portia suggests that her father shall simply decline to be made a bishop. On this, of course, Mrs. Grantley refuses to marry him; he consents to the union of Strahan and Portia, and he and they decide to start a school together.

There is a certain grim pleasantry about this conclusion, and about the satire on sham sorrow over the death of a person by whose demise one benefits, which distinguishes "The Headmaster" from most pieces of the kind, but it teems with "funny bits" and deliciously amusing touches. The house roared with laughter when two boys, who came to the "head" for a preliminary discourse on Confirmation were mistaken by him for offenders, and were on the point of being birched accordingly. There is also some droll business in connection with a pastoral play; and altogether "The Headmaster" is lightly and continuously diverting.

Mr. Cyril Maude makes a most comical, but at the same time perfectly well bred and sympathetic, Sanctuary. He gives to his part just the Oxford tone and accent and half-humorous dignity necessary, and plays the part throughout with great attention to detail and delicacy of touch. There is a reality about his impersonation which doubles the effect of the situations, and the same may be said of Miss Frances Ivor's Mrs. Grantley, which was always on the verge of being a caricature but never overstepped the line which divides effectiveness from exaggeration. The scene of Mrs. Grantley's error, as played by Miss Ivor and Mr. Maude, was a delightful bit of clever comedy acting. Miss Margery Maude makes an utterly charming Portia, and her acting in the love scenes is strikingly deep and earnest for so young an artiste; and Miss Kathleen Jones shows considerable intelligence and promise as Antigone. Mr. Edward Combermere looks the part of Strahan well, and plays it with fervency and spirit, and Mr. John Harwood supplies a dryly humorous representation of the School Sergeant, Munton, Mr. Charles Bibby's Dean being very natural and well-balanced. Mr. Arthur Curtis makes Palisser Grantley duly absurd, giving a quaint and original reading of the rôle; and the impulsive and unformed Richards Major is amusingly embodied by Mr. Jack Hobbs; Master Eric Rae and Master Kendrick Huxham making the two boys quietly and unconsciously droll. Mr. Bruce Smith's scenery is bright and pretty. "The Headmaster" had a very favourable reception. It was preceded by a musicdrame in four pictures, by Dora Bright, from a story by Pieter Van Der Meer, played for the first time, and entitled

"IN HAARLEM THERE DWELT——."

Minna ..... Miss Margery Maude—
Gerritt ..... Mr. Mark Paton
Polman ..... Mr. James Dale

The production of this little piece is to be remarked for the employment of a new method of denoting the lapse of time by darkening the stage and announcing the interval elapsing by a transparency. It has also more facial play, gesture, and musical accompaniment than usual in a piece of its class. A young Dutch wife is wedded to a surly, elderly boor, and courted by his fellow cashier, a gay, handsome young fellow, with the result that she arranges to elope with him. She comes back to take a last look round her home, and finds her husband's coat on a chair, with a note asking her, "before she goes," to mend a tear in it. Her heart fails her, she sends her lover away, and sits down sorrowfully to her repairing. Miss Margery Maude played the young wife with delicate charm and deep feeling, her facial play being remarkably expressive. Mr. Mark Paton embodied Gerritt picturesquely and strongly; and Mr. James Dale put plenty of grace, spirit, and vitality into his performance of the part of Polman. The single scene, the "Kamer" of a Dutch home, was prettily painted by Mr. F. Schmitz. "The Headmaster" is just the thing to counteract the effects of the present damp, depressing weather.

Reminiscences of Tracy Turnerelli and the late Lord Beaconsfield are revived by the golden laurel wreath, with an inscription upon each leaf, which was presented on the 17th inst. to Mr. Maurice Moscowitch at a benefit performance given in his honour at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End-road, when he produced a play by Richard Voss, entitled "Daniel Danielli." Long speeches and addresses were spoken and read in Yiddish before the presentation was made by the leader of the orchestra, who read the inscriptions on the gifts. "To our King," said one; "To our noble and honoured director," said another; and cigarette cases, boxes of silver knives and forks, cases of spoons, epergnes, books (Goethe in Yiddish being among them), and other articles were all labelled with enthusiastic effusions.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"STELLA MARIS."

Opera, in Three Acts, by Alfred Kaiser, Produced at the Kurfürsten Oper, Jan. 18.

Sylvain .....Herr von Zawilowski
Yanik .....Herr Soot
Marga .....Fräulein Forti
Die Mutter .....Fräulein Seebold
Pierre .....Herr Arnold
Manieck ..... Herr Wissiak
Fegon .....Herr Kaiser
Yoon .....Herr Moscow
Lebass .....Herr Berg
Gonnek ..... Herr Simmoth
Anne-Marie .....Fräulein Hjorth
Seemann .....Herr Thomaschek

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday.—Herr Kaiser has had a great success with his new opera, which is a considerable improvement upon his last composition of the kind, "Die Schwarze Nina," produced here some six years ago. "Stella Maris" is a musical drama of the modern school, and will certainly catch on wherever it is produced. It is not, perhaps, very deep or strikingly original, but the music is pleasing throughout, dramatic and jovial in turn, with an abundance of melody. Herr Kaiser is fond of mixing his contrasts rather glaringly, but this only adds to the effect in the eyes of many. The reception accorded was quite enthusiastic, and the opera will undoubtedly run for some time. The book has been drawn by Herr Kaiser from the French; it is not done into very poetic German, but the plot is a grateful one. It is the story of the natives of a fishing village near Cape Finisterre, of which Marga is the heroine. The girl was betrothed to the young fisherman Yanik, who has not been heard of for years, and she finally is induced to accept Sylvain, a master fisherman, who has assisted her mother in time of need. Her heart still belongs to the vanished Yanik, who most inopportunely turns up on the very day before the wedding. He attempts to renew the old ties, but Marga's conscience will not permit her to throw over Sylvain at the last moment. Yanik then offers her money, trying to tempt her to become his by the sight of gold. Marga's better nature revolts from this method, and her love for Yanik changes to dislike. She weds Sylvain, whom she speedily loves, but is now full of fears for his life, Yanik having sworn revenge. The discarded lover is frequently seen by her stealing past their cottage, and the prophecy of the old beggar Manieck confirms her fears. To save the man she loves and respects she is forced to grant Yanik an interview, where she yields herself to him under the condition that he leaves the country immediately. Marga is now tortured by remorse, and learns, moreover, that the villain has not kept his word. Sylvain sees her suffering, and cannot understand the cause until one day he overhears a conversation between his wife and her former lover. Beneath the title of his opera Herr Kaiser has placed the words, "John, VIII. chap., 7 verse," and, according to the sentiment herein contained, Sylvain pardons his wife, who had erred out of love for him. She cannot forgive herself, she feels herself unworthy, and is on the verge of taking her life, despite all the kind and encouraging words of her husband. Then, together, the two see the evening star, the Stella Maris, rise in all its beauty over them, and Marga's heart is filled with gratitude; she feels that God has pardoned her sin, and she sinks with joy into her husband's outstretched arms. The interpretation was excellent all round, the laurels of the evening being carried off by Fräulein Forti, from the Dresden Royal Opera, who sang and acted splendidly.

At the Lessing Theatre a new play was produced on Saturday with particularly satisfactory results. It was a comedy in three acts, entitled "Das Prinzip," by the Austrian dramatist, Hermann Bahr. There is plenty of humour and a good dose of satire in the plot, and the acting being faultless the reception was exceedingly cordial. Closely examined, the actions of the hero, Dr. Friedrich Esch, are as ridiculous as they are impossible, but it is a comedy, and the author's one aim is to make his audience laugh. Esch is a believer in equality and independence, and, above all, is an exponent of the golden rule to such an extent that he makes no objection when his son—a lad of nineteen—announces his intention of marrying the cook, and when his youthful daughter elopes with the gardener's boy. Dr. Esch sacrifices everything to his "principle" of love and levelling. When Lene, the cook, is not "willing," but prefers as a partner for life the head waiter she has always favoured, the man of principle strives his utmost to soften her. Everything, of course, turns out as it should. The foolish maiden is returned safe and sound to the parental roof, and Hans, the love-sick youth, transfers his affections from Lene to a fascinating dancer, and thus everyone is satisfied. Herr Reicher, in the rôle of Esch, was perfect, and the fact of stating that Fräulein Lehmann gave the part of the cook is synonymous with saying that it was a masterly rendering; the dry humour of this famous member of the Lessing company, and her absolute fidelity to life in every rôle she undertakes, are too well known for comment.

Leo Fall's new operetta, "Die Studentengräfin," met with a good deal of success at its first production last week at the Nollendorf-Platz Theatre. It is remarkably bright and pleasing, and the only fault that the audience seemed to find with it was in its great length. With some cutting the work would certainly gain in all ways.

THE GERMAN THEATRE BILL.

(FROM OUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENT.)

The new Theatre Bill will not, as many people think, take the form of an independent law, but will come out as a supplement and amendment of the already existing Imperial Industrial System Bill. The draft of the new Bill as it now stands, with its two articles and their many paragraphs and sub-paragraphs, will certainly meet with a goodly number of modifications. It may, nevertheless, be predicted with certainty that several important demands of the German Actors' Union will be granted; they are, indeed, I am told, as good as assured.

The points upon which the German Actors' Union lays the greatest stress are the questions of toilette and the giving of notice. The term of the notice to be given is to be of equal duration in future on both sides, not the one-sided arrangement it has hitherto been, and the management must provide all toilettes except what is exclusively for the personal use of the artiste.

Another important point is the matter of full remuneration for all preliminary rehearsals. Hitherto, these have been paid only partially or not at all. The German Actors' Union is of the opinion that a manager is bound to pay his artistes their full salary from the very commencement of their work.

These points met substantially with the concurrence of all parties at the discussions carried on at the Home Office early this month, and, in addition to these, the following were thus far approved of:—An interval of four hours' rest between the concluding of the rehearsal and the beginning of the performance; ten hours' nightly rest to be assured; rehearsals on Sunday and in the evening only to be allowed under exceptional circumstances, such as obstruction in the stage machinery, an imperative change of repertory, or on the occasion of single starring performances, parity of contracts; hygienic improvement; and, finally, the right to sufficient occupation.

An apparently minor point, but one that has caused some friction in the feminine department, is already conceded. In future the artistes' hairdresser is to be paid by the manager. This expense has been hitherto borne by the individual actress. The maternity question has yet to be fully discussed. A number of large-hearted women are endeavouring to obtain the same advantages for the mothers of illegitimate children as for married actresses.

Taken altogether, the prospects of the new Bill are on an excellent footing, and the German Actors' Union is fully satisfied with them. The air is being thoroughly cleared, and in future the relations of actors and managers will undoubtedly be infinitely better than they have hitherto been.

"AT THE MERCY OF THE MORMONS."

Drama, in Three Acts, by Edwin George, Produced for the First Time in London at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on Monday, Jan. 20.

Ruddy Rodger .....Mr. H. P. Sullivan
Mexican Jake .....Mr. Edwin Davies
Ezra Higbee .....Mr. Jas. Mailey
Ebenezer Guffy .....Mr. W. O. Rossiter
Matt Hinds .....Mr. Harry Beverley
Slim Jim .....Mr. Walter Leahair
Tony Harris .....Miss Margaret Brinsley
Pat Hickey .....Mr. Forbes Dawtrey
Wishee Washee .....Mr. Ambrose Pinder
Titus Taussig ..... Mr. Jerold E. Reed
Stumpy Liz .....Miss Alice Maude
Lucy Harris .....Miss Hazel Dent
Ruth Marlow .....Miss Ruby Loncraine

The story of this engrossing drama opens in a Californian camp, where a party of miners are resting after their day's labour. Peace, however, is not for them, as two Mormons, Ezra and Titus, enter in search of two children of one Jack Harris, who some time previously had shot one of their "prophets," Joseph Smith, for insulting a woman. He, however, had paid the penalty of his chivalry, as the Mormons had murdered him and swore to avenge the "prophet's" death by exterminating the whole family, namely, the children, Tony and Lucy. These youngsters had, on the death of their father, been taken care of by the miners in their camp. Despite the attentions of "the boys," the Mormon scoundrels decoy Tony away and slay him, and over his dead body "the boys" swear to track the murderers down and make them pay the penalty of their crime. Ezra adopts the disguise of a saloon keeper, and opens a "bar." He also advertises for school teachers, ostensibly for the neighbouring town, but in reality to be decoyed to Salt Lake City. His plan, however, is discovered by the miners; he is denounced as a Mormon, and promptly tarred and feathered. This is a really fine scene. We next see the exterior of Ruth Marlow's house, where she carries on a night school. Lucy Harris, now disguised as a youth, attends the school. One night she faints, and Ruth finds that the "boy" known as Danny Dexter is really a woman. "Danny" confesses to Ruth, who swears never to reveal her identity. Ezra and Titus overhear the disclosure, and shortly after demand "Danny" from her home; Ruth refuses, and they are about to maltreat her and secure "Danny" when Mexican Jake arrives and checkmates their plans. After their hurried departure there is a humorous love scene between Ruddy and Ruth. The supposed "boy" is also in love with Ruddy, and Lucy tells Ruth, but she consents to give him up, begging Ruth to keep her secret. Lucy enters Ruth's cottage just as Mexican Jake reappears, and he straightway proceeds to make love to Ruth, but is promptly refused. He hides, and sees the "boy" leave Ruth's home, and, securing him, demands to know why he is always hanging around Ruth's cabin. The "boy" refuses to tell him, and the latter is about to kill him when Ruth puts in an appearance and stops the crime. In the next scene Ruth and Ruddy are married. We find Ruth bending over her baby in a cradle. Ruddy enters in his rough-and-ready way, and proceeds to take the child up, but is remonstrated with. Whilst this is going on "Danny" rushes into the place followed by the miners. Ruddy protects the "lad," and promises to see him safely over the border if necessary. The miners, led by Ebenezer Guffy, "the Judge," gaze with wondering eyes upon the baby, and the Judge promptly names it "the widow's mite," Ruth having been a widow prior to her marriage with Ruddy. Soon after Mexican Jake bursts into the cabin. He has been drinking heavily. All are amazed, and prepare to give him a warm reception, when he places his hand in his hip pocket. He, however, hands out the key of his "shack," and begs Ruddy and his wife to take up their quarters there, as he is going away. Mexican Jake leaves, and just outside is stricken with paralysis. Ruddy is sent for, and immediately on his departure Ezra enters. He tells Ruth that he is a Mormon and an anointed Elder of the Church. He tries by trickery to decoy Ruth, but she denounces him. After a dramatic scene between the pair she drives him from her home at the point of a revolver. "Danny" enters, and tells Ruth of the story that is current in the camp—that the child does not belong to Ruddy, but is the result of a liaison between "Danny" and Ruth. Ruddy, having heard the rumour, hurries home, only to find "Danny" in Ruth's arms. An angry scene follows, and the "boy" is turned out. Ruddy demands an explanation, which Ruth cannot give him, as she has promised to keep the secret. She, however, swears to her husband that she has been true in word and deed, and loves no other man but him. Ruddy believes her statement, promising never again to doubt her. The "boy" is followed by Mexican Jake, who demands to know why he still visits Ruth when scandal is rife in the camp. "Danny" informs Jake that there is no cause for such statement, and Jake promises to help him. Left alone for a while, "Danny" strolls into a wood, and is set upon by Ezra and Titus; Ezra gives "Danny" an opportunity of living by going to Utah, but she prefers to die, whereupon Ezra carries out his throat. Jake then appears, shoots Titus, and "holds up" Ezra. Hearing the shots the miners put in an appearance, and Ruddy, who is in the foreground, discovers that "Danny" is really a woman, in fact, Lucy Harris. Ruth arrives, and is informed that "Danny" is dead. The miners escort Ezra away, whilst Jake and Ruddy consult as to his punishment. They, however, prefer to leave it to the miners to decide. The latter at once cry "Lynch him!"—a most dramatic, exciting finish.

Mr. H. P. Sullivan gives a finished performance as Ruddy Rodger, forceful, clear and natural; Mr. Edwin Davies submits a remarkably clever piece of character acting in his portrayal of Mexican Jake. He is also general and stage-manager. Mr. W. O. Rossiter is well placed as the Judge, Ebenezer Guffy, his witty sayings being keenly enjoyed. Equally funny, too, are Mr. Walter Leahair as Slim Jim, Mr. Ambrose Pinder as the Chinaman, Wishee Washee, and Miss Alice Maude as Stumpy Liz. Miss Margaret Brinsby makes a capital character study of Tony Harris, whilst Miss Hazel Dent as Lucy Harris ("Danny Dexter") is excellent. Miss Ruby Loncraine gives a sympathetic rendition of Ruth. The hypocritical skunks, Ezra and Titus, could hardly be in safer hands than those of Messrs. Jas. Mailey and Jerold E. Reed; and the minor characters are all adequately enacted. The scenery, effects, and costumes are on an elaborate scale.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LES MAINS QUI PORTENT LE FEU."

Symbolic Drama, in Three Acts, by M. Viouly, Produced at the Nouveau Théâtre d'Art, on Jan. 23.

La Reine ..... Mlle. Marcelle Schmidt
Léla ..... Mlle. Renée Conti
Une Vierge ..... Mlle. Nattier
Une Vierge ..... Mlle. Hymnis
Une Vierge ..... Mlle. Franconié
Femmes Sanke ..... Mlle. Niolet
Shéradale ..... M. Magnat
Le Grand Prêtre ..... M. Jouvey
Le Roi ..... M. Yonel
Guerrier Slève ..... M. Claudet

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Thursday, Jan. 23.—This symbolic work, although written by an unskilful hand, is meritorious, in so far as the young author has carefully studied his subject and has rendered his ideas with the utmost sincerity. When the curtain rises we learn that the Sanks are at war with their old foes, the Slevs; and Wolland, King of the Sanks, fearing a fatal issue of the campaign, is anxious to sue for peace. But Shéradale, the great sculptor, is of a different opinion, and his fiery speeches arouse the patriotism of the people. He says good-bye to his fiancée, and is on the point of leaving for the front when suddenly, in his artist's mind, he beholds the goddess of the Sanks, a goddess radiating beauty and grace. A thrill passes through him. This apparition is a revelation to him. For a long time past he has been searching for a fitting subject, and now the lovely divinity has offered herself to become, so to say, his model, and assist him in acquiring fame. The patriot, the soldier, in him has disappeared, and there only remains the artist, who now turns his back on the enemy, and, unheedful of the jeers of his compatriots, leaves for a secluded spot in the country to work on the divine statue. Things, however, take a dramatic turn. In the next tableau the war has come to an end, and the sculptor, having terminated his work, is returning to town. But the mob, who all along has accused him of cowardice, smashes his statue, and the sculptor is compelled to flee for his life. But the Sanks have reckoned without their goddess, a revengeful and spiteful creature, who at once hurls lightning at the offending city. In the third tableau we see "fire everywhere." For some unexplained reason Shéradale's fiancée commits suicide, and the sculptor is on the point of following the same course when he remembers that his task on earth, as an artist, has not yet been fulfilled. A great work lies before him, a work of beauty, and he will obey its call. The play, capitally acted, met with a cordial reception.

The above work was preceded by "Une Bonne Place," one act, by MM. Alfred Fourtier and Jean Marguerite, intended to be a satirical sketch. Two out-at-elbows vagabonds meet on a wooden bench in one of the boulevards, and after a few minutes' conversation they discover that they have met before. One has been a minister of State, and the other his private secretary. They have come down in the world, and after having said bitter things to one another they finally fight. There is neither wit nor observation in this so-called farce.

"Le Sang Français" is the title of a play in seven tableaux by MM. Albert Lambert and Fernand Meynet, produced at the Théâtre Nouveau, situated in the populous Belleville quarter. As the title indicates, it is a patriotic work, and as we see therein a pathetic mother, a son who runs through some terrible dangers, a traitor who comes to grief, the play met with a most enthusiastic reception. It is the story of a young Alsatian, who, in order not to be incorporated in a regiment of "spiked helmets," seeks and obtains an engagement in the French foreign Legion. Hearing that his mother is dying, he returns to his native village, but a scoundrel denounces him to the German authorities, and having been drafted into a German regiment, he manages to run away and to return to Africa, where his fiancée joins him as a member of the Red Cross Society. Felder, the traitor, however, has followed them, and, disguised as an Arab chief, he carries off the heroine. The audience grew visibly excited, for it looked very much as if the wicked Felder were to carry everything before him. But the authors knew their business too well to let vice be triumphant. His retreat is discovered, and, to the delight of the audience, he is killed in a summary manner. Patriotic plays are evidently very much in favour just now.

M. Poincaré's election to the post of President of the Republic has given unbounded satisfaction in the theatrical world, and on the night of his nomination there were several pretty demonstrations. Thus, at the Concerts Touche the audience interrupted the performance and insisted on the musicians playing the Marseillaise. The latter readily responded, and even performed this hymn twice. At the Gaieté Rochechouart the artist in the revue—supposed to represent our President—had made up like M. Poincaré, and he was received with tremendous applause. Congratulations have been showered on M. Poincaré from every side, but he, no doubt, was very much amused when among the mass of visiting cards on his table, he found a small, perfumed card bearing the name of Mlle. Marthe Brandès. This charming actress, certainly, has every reason to feel grateful to the clever barrister, who had once taken up her cause. For it was M. Poincaré who many years ago pleaded for Mlle. Brandès in the action brought against her by M. Claretie for leaving the House of Molière without having obtained leave to do so. The talented actress having turned her back on the house, and signed an engagement with the Renaissance, the Comédie-Française claimed £4,000 damages, a large sum, which, thanks to the talent of her clever counsel, was reduced to £1,000.

Mme. Cora Laparcerie, the new manageress of the Renaissance, intends to revive "l'Enchantement," the well-known work by M. Bataille, with Mlle. Berthe Bady in the chief rôle; whilst the part created by Mme. Marthe Regnier will be undertaken by Mlle. Jane Renouart.

M. Gémier has not had such a success for many years as he is having now with "L'Homme qui assassina." Seats are still being booked weeks in advance, and there is no doubt that the impressive and amusing work will run till the end of the season.

M. Giraud is putting the finishing touches to "Ninnie Brandon," a four-act play he is writing in collaboration with M. Léon Hennique, to be produced at the Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, when that house will be opened.

It is whispered that MM. Messager and Broussan think of engaging M. Fragson to interpret the rôle of Beckmesser in "The Meistersinger." It certainly sounds strange, but so many artistes have already left the "halls" for the regular stage that it would not be surprising if M. Fragson were to appear on the boards of our Opera.

MM. Isola have the intention of reviving "Isoline," the well-known opera-comique by Catulle Mendès and André Messager, with altogether new scenery. In that case, Mlle. Alice Bonheur will sing the leading part.

Mr. R. Henderson Bland and Mr. A. E. Manning Foster, whose new Russian play, "Catherine the Great," is to be produced by the Drama Society on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Cosmopolis, have been fortunate enough to secure Miss Ella Erskine for the part of the Empress Elizabeth.

SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

John Porter, the famous Kingsclere trainer, has been letting himself go on the subject of modern jockeys, and the decadence of the art of riding. Though he does not actually say so in so many words, it is evident that Porter does not regard the front-rank jockeys of to-day in the same hemisphere with the heroes of his day. A question of that sort can never be cleared up, because the men held up as paragons are long since dead. Still, I think few people will agree with this idea. We are certainly badly off for jockeys, but the front-rank men to-day are every bit as capable as were Fordham, Archer, and Sloan in their different periods.

It is mainly with the light-weights and youngsters that Porter has his quarrel. He believes that a return to the 5 stone minimum in handicaps would eventually have the effect of producing more proficient jockeys, and the idea of a little 4st. lad not being strong enough to manage a thoroughbred he declares to be ridiculous. Well, modern experience shows that lads weighing under 6st. are rarely of any use in the matter of strength. Many of the light-weights riding last season were as useless to their mounts as a sack of oats. The question of the 5 lb. allowance for apprentices being confined to mounts from the stable to which they are indentured is logical enough, because it would undoubtedly force trainers to give more careful instruction to the lads, and they would not then be regarded as more or less a commercial asset to be hired to the highest bidder.

George Fordham was Porter's favourite rider. He represented the happy medium between the extreme styles of Archer and Sloan. These three jockeys were geniuses in their day, though Porter does not consider that Fred Archer was a really finished horseman. He attributes Archer's success to his indomitable will, energy, and quickness in seizing opportunities. Sloan, of course, changed the whole character of race riding, and to compete with him the other jockeys had to give up their old waiting about methods and go right away from start to finish. Porter's idea about reducing the handicap scale is directly opposed to the modern trend of thought on the subject. Most people advocate raising it in order to produce a better type of man physically. The privations of jockeys are severe enough, and keeping weight down by continually wasting and battling with nature invariably means undermining the constitution, which, of course, must be harmful in every way, apart from humanitarian considerations.

In view of the paltry prizes to be won at jumping, £3,000 seems a big sum to refuse for a hurdler. Mr. B. Parr is alleged to have declined an offer of this amount for Bernstein, who put up such a slashing performance in the Berkshire Maiden Hurdle Race at Newbury on Thursday. Bernstein is far and away the best young hurdler yet seen out, and possibly the best we have seen for some years; but still it was an alluring offer. Of course, he may some day become a great 'chaser. There are certain characteristics about him not unlike Jerry M., and he has youth on his side. By St. Gris, too, he is bred for 'chasing, and it is doubtless with a cross-country career in view that Mr. Parr decided to keep him. In fact, his name figures in the Four-Year-Old National Hunt Steeplechase at Cheltenham in March, as well as in one or two minor steeplechases before the great N.H. gathering. Bernstein's career will be watched with interest. Every time he runs he makes his performance behind Pollen at Newbury in December look more grotesque. Most people who saw that race noted him as something quite out of the ordinary.

Although Black Plum won in the end, he gave a very slovenly display of jumping in the three miles Winchester Steeplechase, and, indeed, it was only after Morgan had given him a sharp reminder of the business in hand that he put any go at all into the job. He has better speed than Regent, though the Wroughton horse is a head and shoulders above him in fencing. Foreglen gave promise of an early victory, and Saturn, who was in front for a long while, will win over two miles when the company is not too good.

After Savannah II. had won the Ogbourne Steeplechase people remembered her brilliance last spring, and reproached themselves for missing the good thing which she undoubtedly represented on her best form. Savannah II. is an American bred mare of some class. She won the Tantivy Steeplechase at Gatwick last year, but going amiss in the spring she had not seen a racecourse since the Manchester Easter meeting.

SELECTIONS.

At Kempton to-day the Handicap Steeplechase should attract a good field and produce a brisk market, as one or two of the competitors are highly fancied. Glen Heston, Forkhill, and Eugenist are each expected to go close, but I shall stick to

MARCELLINUS,

who is still near the foot of the handicap. He won in brilliant style at Hurst Park the other day, and is evidently a good horse now. In the Cranford Steeplechase AGNES M., in view of her close race with Periwinkle II. at Manchester, stands out, and possibly Mason will be well enough to ride her. The Egham Maiden Hurdle presents a difficult problem until the starters are known, but in taking TWEEDLEDUM we have a trier at least. I am informed that Mr. Sievier's horse is an adept at hurdling. SHINO may win the Ditton Hurdle, and MINSTREL PARK, who was reserved from Newbury for Kempton, ought to take the Hanworth Park Hurdle.

At Nottingham on Monday FEATHERSTONE if he runs will win the Mansfield Steeplechase. In his absence, however, QUINTON would about win it. ANGEL'S PATH failed to last home at Newbury on Wednesday, but on this easy course she will just about do it in the Harrington Hurdle Handicap. BLOCKADE RUNNER is the best class horse in the Wollaton Steeplechase, and he should win, while JACK POT and PUNCHINELLO ought to win their engagements. Tuesday's card contains an attractive feature in the shape of a 400 sovs. three and a half-miles steeplechase. If MELAMAR, who also figures in a race at Windsor later in the week, runs here he ought to win in spite of his big weight. Great Cross may not be ready yet, so in Melamar's absence I should take KIPPEEN, who was unlucky at Manchester the other day. Now that FREDITH has started winning long-distance hurdle races again she should be followed in the Gonalstone Handicap Hurdle. THE MINK will about win the Tollerton Steeplechase.

Over 400 children of the Islington Guardians' Schools, Holloway, were, by the kind invitation of the management, present at the performance of the pantomime, "Aladdin," at the Marlborough Theatre on Monday afternoon. The children walked from the schools to the theatre, where they were made welcome and comfortably seated by the staff under the direction of the manager, Mr. J. Murray Herriot. The boys and girls were regaled with buns and oranges, and each little guest was presented with a bright new penny enclosed in a pretty case, the creature comforts and the new pennies being kindly provided by tradesmen of the locality and the ornamented cases by Mr. Lowen. That the children thoroughly enjoyed the pantomime goes without saying. The boys' band led the way to and from the theatre, and the general arrangements were in every respect satisfactory.

ON THE ROAD, JANUARY 27.

Alias Jimmy Valentine.—W.G.T., New Brighton.
Allah's Orchard.—T.R., Oldham.
Amazons, The.—Cambridge and Leamington.
An Arabian Vengeance.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Arcadians, The.—Court T., Wigan.
At the Mercy of the Mormons.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Autumn Manœuvres.—Grand T., Hull.
Bella Donna (Limpus).—Accrington.
Ben-Hur.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Benson, Mr. F. R.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Bonnie Mary.—Grand T., Stockton.
Brewster's Millions.—T.R., Ashton.
Bulmer, Mr.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—Bishop Auckland.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—T.R., Bournemouth.
Carl Rosa Opera Company.—H.M.T., Dundee.
Castellana Opera Co.—O.H., Burnley.
Cattle Thief, The.—Empire T., Methil.
Child of the Streets.—T.R., Belfast.
Chocolate Soldier (N.).—T.R., Worcester.
Chocolate Soldier (No. 1).—T.R., Chester.
Collier's Lass (N.).—T.R., Middlesbrough.
Collier's Lass, The (S.).—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Colombo Girl, The.—O.H., Treherbert.
Count of Luxembourg.—Grand T., Fulham, S.W.
Count of Luxembourg.—Llanelly and Aberavon.
Dancing Mistress, The.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—T.R., Halifax.
Draper, Mr. Marcus.—Grand T., Pentre.
Driven From Home.—Empire T., Holloway, N.
Fanny's First Play (Rignold and Macdona).—T.R., Bolton.
For Wife and Kingdom.—T.R., Rotherham.
Gambler, The.—Met. T., Glasgow.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife (?).—Pontardawe and Ystelyfera.
Gipsy Love.—T.R., Portsmouth.
Girl in the Picture.—Dunfermline.
Girl in the Train.—King's T., Greenock.
Girl of My Heart.—Wednesbury.
Girl Who Went Astray.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
Glossop-Harris Rept.—T.R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Harvey, Martin.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Hill-Mitchelson, E.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Hindle Wakes (No. 1).—O.H., Barnsley.
Hindle Wakes (No. 2).—T.R., Cardiff.
Hindle Wakes (No. 3).—T.R., Glossop.
Hindle Wakes (No. 4).—T.R., Norwich.
Hope, The (Dance).—Grand T., Derby.
Indian Scout, The.—New T., Middleton.
Kismet (Dance) (S.).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Kit Carson.—New Pavilion, Morley.
La Comedie Anglaise.—New Ross and Arklow.
Lifeguardsman, The (S.).—T.R., Whitehaven.
Lodge-Percy Rept.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—O.H., Burton-on-Trent.
'Mid Pleasures and Palaces.—P.O.W., Salford.
Milestones (Fit-up).—Faversham and Guildford.
Milestones (White).—T.R., Margate.
Miracle, The.—Grand T., Buxton.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Grand T., Oldham.
Monte Cristo.—Pier, Eastbourne.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—T.R., Merthyr.
Mormon and His Wives.—T.R., Aston.
Mormon and the Maid.—Hippodrome, Salford.
Mother's Love, A.—T.R., Macclesfield.
Nick Carter.—County T., Bedford.
Oath of Vengeance.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Old Folks at Home, The.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Old Home, The.—Grand T., Chorley.
Pink Lady, The.—T.R., Newcastle.
Prairie Outlaw, The.—T.R., Sunderland.
Pride of Byzantia, The.—O.H., St. Helens.
Pride of the Prairie.—Grand T., Halifax.
Princess Caprice.—(Jan. 20 to Feb. 10), King's T., Glasgow.
Prisoner of Zenda.—Rawtenstall.
Quaker Girl.—Peterborough.
Queen Mother, The.—P.O.W., Grimsby.
Queen of the Redskins (N.).—Rushden and Wellingborough.
Raynor Repertory Co.—Empress T., Hartlepool.
Red Riding Hood (De Lacy and Tymes).—Hippodrome, Hemsworth.
Rollicking Rory.—Alexandra T., Belfast.
Royal Divorce, A.—T.R., Windsor.
Scrape o' the Pen.—T.R., York.
Silver King.—O.H., Wakefield.
Slave Girl, The.—T.R., Pontefract.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Still Alarm, The.—Palace T., Scunthorpe.
Sunshine Girl (Dance).—Grand T., Southampton.
Sweet Nell of Old Drury.—Huddersfield and York.
Van Praagh-Whitty Rept.—Hippo., Bilston.
Waltz Dream (N.).—T.R., Preston.
Waltz Dream (S.).—Hippodrome, Stockton.
Ways and Means.—West Pier, Brighton.
What Happened to Jones.—T.R., Darlington.
Whip, The (Dance) (N.).—Grand T., Croydon.
Whip, The (Dance) (S.).—Watford.
Witness for the Defence.—D.P.T., Eastbourne.
Woman Pays, The.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Young Buffalo.—Prince's T., Porstmouth.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by L. and N.W. route to-morrow (Sunday):—Moody Manners Opera, Wigan to Merthyr; "A Lad's Love," Leigh and Bedford to Pontypridd; "Butterfly on the Wheel," Widnes to Shrewsbury; "Dick Whittington," Birkenhead to Preston; "Aladdin," Birkenhead to Fleetwood; "Cinderella," Burnley to Carlisle; "Aladdin," St. Helens to Darwen; "Allah's Orchard," Warrington to Oldham; "Babes in the Wood," Leigh and Bedford to Nelson; "Don't You Believe It," London to Wolverhampton; Percy Honri's "Bohemia," Hanley to Kensington; "Babes in the Wood," Longton to London; "Sinbad," Hanley to Euston; "Forty Thieves," Rugby to St. Albans; "Scrape o' the Pen," Liverpool to York; "Indian Scout," Earlestown to Middleton; "Cinderella," Manchester to York; "Robinson Crusoe," Leeds to Wigan; "Sleeping Beauty," Leeds to Salford; "Babes in the Wood," Dewsbury to Liverpool; "No Mother to Guide Her," New Mills to Earlestown; "Red Riding Hood," Salford to Stoke; Mr. Forbes Robertson's "Cinderella," Newcastle to Dewsbury; "Blackguard of the Regiment," Newcastle to Widnes; "Mid Pleasures and Palaces," Sunderland to Salford; "Babes in the Wood," Stockton to Liverpool; "House that Jack Built," Kensington to Birkenhead; "Jack and the Beanstalk," Southend to Birkenhead; "Chocolate Soldier," Northampton to Chester; "Aladdin," Bedford to Colwyn Bay; "Babes in the Wood," Motherwell to Bangor; "The Barrier," Greenock to West Kirby; "Waltz Dream," Shrewsbury to Stockton; "Dick Whittington," Walsall to Manchester; "Mother's Love," Wednesbury to Macclesfield; "Woman Pays," Cradley to Burnley; "Prairie Outlaw," Manchester to Sunderland; "What Happened to Jones," Huddersfield to Darlington; Raynor's Repertoire, Manchester to East Hartlepool; "Mill Girl and Miner," Workington to Smethwick; "Still Alarm," Whitehaven to Frodingham; "Cinderella," Lancaster to Kidderminster; "Prairie Outlaw," Manchester to Smethwick; "The Miracle," Blackpool to Buxton; "Dick Whittington," Preston to Worksop; "Robinson Crusoe," Bangor to Bury; "Queen for a Wife," St. Helens to Sheerness; Lodge Percy's, Chorley to Bangor; "Royal Divorce," Bootle to Windsor; "Cinderella," Farnworth to Nuneaton; "Robinson Crusoe," Hednesford to Moorthorpe; "Silver Creek," Darwen to Belfast; "Easiest Way," Coventry to Wolverhampton; Leonard Mortimer's, Spon Lane to Barrow; "Red Riding Hood," Glasgow to London; Lew Lake's, London to Birmingham.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will utilise the above railway line to-morrow (Sunday):—"Humpty Dumpty," Dundee to Hull; Leeburn's Stars, Glasgow to Hull; "Red Riding Hood," Glasgow to King's Cross; "Forty Thieves," Glasgow to Sunderland; "White Sonaw," North Shields to Glasgow; "The Gambler," Bishop Auckland to Glasgow; "Cattle Thief," Newcastle to Methil; Torcat Co., Newcastle to Glasgow; "Babes in the Wood," Usworth to Ayr; "Jack and the Beanstalk," Newcastle to Greenock; Turner Opera Co., Jarrow to Shield Row; "Bonnie Mary," Shield Row to Stockton; "Aladdin," Whitley Bay to Jarrow; "Village Nuts," Hebburn to Chesterle-Street; "Collier's Lass," West Hartlepool to Middlesbrough; King's Juveniles, Fencehouses to Spennymoor; "Leah," Seaham to Crook; "Dick Whittington," West Hartlepool to Newcastle; "Aladdin" North Shields to West Hartlepool; "River Girl," Sunderland to Bradford; "Robinson Crusoe," "Newcastle to Leeds; "Cinderella," Gateshead to Dewsbury; Les Petites Anglais, Durham to Longton; Speigler Co., Newcastle to Hanley; "Mid Pleasures and Palaces," Sunderland to Ordsall Lane; "Blackguard of the Regiment," Newcastle to Widnes; "Mormon and his Wives," Newcastle to Birmingham; "Dick Whittington," South Shields to Wakefield; "Slave Girl," Fencehouses to Pontefract; the March Hares, Newcastle to Harrogate; the Florence Smithers Co., Sunderland to King's Cross; Coverdale's Co., Newcastle to Maryport; the Glossop-Harris Co., Ilkley to Bury St. Edmunds; "Lifeguardsman," Darlington to Whitehaven; the Forbes-Robertson Co., Hull to Hanley; "Sorrows of Satan," Chorley to Brancepeth; "Arcadians," Darlington to North Shields; "Babes in the Wood," Thornaby to Liverpool; "Cinderella," Thornaby to Seaham; the Darracq Co., Accrington to Sunderland; "Only a Millgirl," Wolverhampton to Castleford; "Beauty and the Beast," Burnley to Spennymoor; "Red Riding Hood," York to Harrogate; "Scrape o' the Pen," Liverpool to York; "Cinderella," Manchester to York; "Prairie Outlaw," Manchester to Sunderland; Rayner's Co., Manchester to West Hartlepool; "Waltz Dream," Shrewsbury to Stockton; "Autumn Manœuvres," Sheffield to Hull; "Oneen Mother," Castleford to Grimsby Docks; "Katawampas," Harrogate to Brighton; the Houdini Co., Bradford to Hull; "His Child Wife," Hull to Kilmarnock; "Life in the Wild West," Hull to Bolton; the Lalla Selbini Co., Hull to Darlington; "Golden Land of Fairy Tales" Sheffield to Newcastle; "Puss in Boots," Sheffield to Newcastle.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The under-mentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the above company's system to-morrow (Sunday):—

Mr. Cyril Maude's "Bunty Pulls the Strings" company will leave Waterloo by the 12 noon luncheon car express for Bournemouth. A special train leaving Waterloo at 12.5 p.m. will convey the following parties:—Mr. George Dance's "The Sunshine Girl," Waterloo to Southampton; "Wild West Australia," Southend to Southampton; "King of the Wild West," Waterloo to Portsmouth; "Arms and the Girl," Waterloo to Portsmouth. Other parties travelling by the L. and S.W. route will include: Mr. George Edwardes' "Gipsy Love" Bournemouth to Portsmouth; Messrs. Moreton and Heath's "Babes in the Wood," Southampton to Chatham (arriving Waterloo 11.4 a.m.); "Royal Divorce," Alexandra Dock to Windsor; "White as a Lily," Portsmouth to Cradley Heath; Mr. J. F. Elliston's "Jack and Jill," Portsmouth to Swindon; Mr. Bannister Howard's "Robinson Crusoe," Boscombe to Weston-super-Mare; the Russian Ballet, Bournemouth to Brighton; "The Better Man," Portsmouth to Waterloo; Miss Aurora's Performing Animals, Kingston to Nottingham; Le Roy, Southampton to Portsmouth.

LONDON, BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—"When London Sleeps," Worthing to Southend; "Winter Tale," Brighton to Bath; Miss Marconis's company, Portsmouth Town to Brighton; "Aladdin," East Croydon to Bognor; "Speckled Band," Eastbourne to Bognor; "Ways and Means," Eastbourne to Brighton; Amazons, Brighton to Cambridge; "Two Little Vagabonds" Victoria to Worthing; "Man from Mexico," Brighton to Leeds.

The Deal Band and Amusements Committee invite tenders from persons willing to provide a high-class concert party on the Central Parade site, on the sea front at Deal, during the summer season of 1913. Further particulars may be obtained of Mr. Alfred C. Brown, Town Clerk, Deal.

One of the most delightful features in "Twinkle, Little Star," at Birmingham Prince's, is the excellent toe dancing by Little Betty Renee, who will without doubt in a very short time be ranked as one of England's foremost dancers.

After enjoying a highly successful week at Mr. Andrew Melville's well-appointed theatre, the Holloway Empire, that exciting drama, "Monte Cristo," has this week been again playing to full houses at the Pier Palace, Brighton. In a cast of exceptional excellence a very clever and convincing piece of character acting is afforded by Miss Kate Walfred, who, in the part of La Carconte, wife of Caderouse, never fails to nightly win a generous measure of recognition for her very meritorious performance.

At the Great Yarmouth Royal Aquarium this week Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Marie Gibbons, Mr. Bert Lawrence, Miss Glen Darragh, Miss Gladys Warren, Miss Una Reynolds, Mr. Fred Lawrence, Mr. Claude Morton, Mr. Bert Lawrie, Mr. Tim O'Connor, Miss Marie Brian, Miss Elsie Reid, Miss Nell Morton, Miss Edith Wright, Miss Vera Murray, Miss Mabel Brook, and Miss Elsie Gibbons; speciality dancers, Misses Gladys Hamilton, Irene Farmar, Verna Dene, and Mona Lane. General-Manager, Mr. Bert Bailey; Musical-Director, Mr. Frederic Hendries.

The reproduction rights of "Femina," "Fantasio," "Le Jardin des Modes Nouvelles," "Je Sais Tout," "Musica," "La Vie au Grand Air," "Fermes et Chateaux," &c., belong to the Cosmopolis management.

The first flying speed race of the season will take place at the London Aerodrome, Hendon, on Saturday, Feb. 22, which is the concluding day of the Aero Show at Olympia. The event, which is timed for 3 p.m., will be a handicap, with two preliminary heats of four laps or six miles, and a final of six laps or nine miles, around the measured course, marked by six pylons. The first prize for the race is the Aero Show Trophy (value 60 guineas), presented by the proprietors of the London Aerodrome, together with £20, while the second prize is £10.

The Edward Terry Dramatic Club will give a dramatic performance at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Feb. 4 on behalf of a fund which is being raised by the British and Foreign Blind Association for the purpose of producing a complete embossed Braille edition of Shakespeare's works for the blind. Sir Arthur Pinero's comic play, "The Preserving of Mr. Panmure," will be presented by a competent cast. The performance is under the patronage of the Princess Marie Louise of Scaleswig-Holstein and the Duke of Portland. The Association produces by far the greater part of the embossed Braille books for the education, training, and comfort of the blind, and from its charitable resources last year over 150,000 Braille publications were issued, which have brought many happy hours into thousands of solitary lives.

DEATH OF MR. J. W. TURNER.

A famous operatic tenor, whose name was for many years practically a household word among music lovers in the provinces, passed away at Yardley, near Birmingham, on the 17th inst., aged 67. His death will be lamented by many. Three years ago, while in London, Mr. Turner sustained a paralytic seizure, from which he never recovered.

Mr. J. W. Turner formed his English operatic company in 1885, and toured with it for the remainder of his professional career. The company enjoyed particular popularity at the East End of London, and for many years fulfilled an annual season at the Standard Theatre, extending to five and six weeks, during which the large house was invariably well filled. He was born at Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottingham, and at the age of nineteen toured with a concert party though India and China. Subsequently he underwent a course of study at the Royal Academy of Music, and afterwards appeared in opera at the Crystal Palace. Two years later he took an operatic company to South Africa, and on his return in 1876 joined the Carl Rosa Company. Then came the founding of the Turner Opera Company, to which we have alluded above. In 1893 he became proprietor of the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, which he successfully carried on for a number of years.

The fame of Mr. Turner will always be associated with his impersonation of Don Cæsar de Bazan in Wallace's "Maritana," as Fra Diavolo in Auber's romantic opera of that name, and as Miles Na-Coppaleen in Benedict's "Lily of Killarney." To his enterprise was due the revival of such comparatively little-known works as "Robin Hood," "Satanella," "The Siege of Rochelle," "The Rose of Castille," and "The Puritan's Daughter." The comprehensive répertoire of the company also included "The Bohemian Girl," Gounod's "Faust," "Maritana," "Fra Diavolo," and Verdi's "Trovatore."

Farming was Mr. Turner's hobby, and it was his custom to invite friends and members of his opera company down to his place at Yardley at hay-making time, to admire the results of his work. He was ever a friend to the members of his combination, and it is said that when urged to give up the stage some ten years ago, the only reason that prevented him retiring was the fact that his company would have been disbanded, and he could not bear to think of the distress it would cause.

A number of persons interested in the French drama have determined to establish a permanent organisation for the representation of French plays, and have founded a society of subscribers, in order that regular performances of the most interesting of the recent productions in Paris may be given to the members and their friends. The Lord Mayor of London has consented to be patron of the society, and among those who have already joined the honorary Council are Lord Willoughby de Broke, Sir Edgar and Lady Speyer, Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Arthur and Lady Pinero, Sir Alfred Turner, Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson, M. Coudurier de Chassaigne, Mr. J. P. Crommelin (Liberian Minister), Mr. Landon Ronald, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, Mr. W. L. Courtney, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Sir Herbert Tree, the Greek Minister, and Mr. George R. Sims. A small executive committee has been formed, consisting of Mr. J. T. Grein (chairman), Mrs. Léon Rueff (honorary treasurer), and Mr. Philip Carr (administrator).

The society will be called "The Little French Theatre," and the annual subscription will be 10s. 6d., which will entitle the member to purchase tickets at prices which will be considerably lower than the ordinary theatre rates. The first performance will be given in a London West-End Theatre, on Sunday evening, March 16, when a programme will be given to be selected from a varied repertory. The regular company will be recruited from French actors at present in London, and the smaller parts will be filled by amateurs of talent from the French colony. It is proposed to engage well-known French artistes for the chief characters in each production, as is done in the German Theatre.

Mr. Arthur J. Coke (secretary of Our Dumb Friends' League) is, we regret to learn, obliged to cancel all engagements for the present, under doctor's orders, being laid up with an attack of of pleurisy.

Miss Jessie Winter takes up the part of Mrs. Darling in "Peter Pan" at the Duke of York's Theatre on Monday next, in place of Miss Viva Birkett, who returns to the Garrick for the production of "Trust the People."

The Cleethorpes Urban District Council are prepared to receive tenders for the privilege of giving entertainments during the 1913 season in the Kingsway Enclosure, Cleethorpes. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Tenders for Open-Air Entertainments," to be sent to the office of Mr. B. Greaves, Council Offices, Cleethorpes, not later than Feb. 10.

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Mr. Charles Howitt and company have been doing excellent business in Natal with his new company and repertoire of plays, "A Member of Tattersall's" being a prime favourite. They are just touring Rhodesia, and will open a Johannesburg season in March or April.

The enterprising management of Cosmopolis has now added a new development to their activities by the establishment of an exclusive branch for Photographic Reporting. At the shortest possible notice French and foreign photographs of topical interest can be provided; and a special Paris fashion service offers, among other advantages, snapshots taken on the racecourses of the latest creations from the foremost Paris houses; designs sketched two days previously to the first night of a new play, describing the dresses, &c., worn by well-known actresses; a weekly fashion page, ready to go to press, with border, sketches, article on the general trend of fashions, social talk, &c.

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MRS. HASLUCK'S DRAMATIC STUDENTS.

The dramatic students of Mrs. Hasluck's School of Elocution and Dramatic Art certainly showed courage in presenting Mr. John Galsworthy's grim play, "The Silver Box," at the Cripplegate Theatre, on Jan. 21, and were apparently justified by the very creditable result obtained. The piece has the merit of providing acting parts for a large number of performers who, in this case, filled them with varying degrees of merit. The action of the play was inclined to drag at times, and the young players have still something to learn of action and deportment. The dissipated, degenerate Jack Barthwick of Mr. Henry Middlemass was a distinctly clever performance, and Mr. Geoffrey Dupree showed considerable power in his presentment of the part of the hopeless, "submerged" Jones. Mr. Reginald Thomas, with many quiet touches, gave an excellent picture of the butler, Marlow, and Mr. Walter Stanley had caught the appropriate "Bow-street" tone and demeanour of the police magistrate. Mr. George Thomas was rather too boisterous and uncertain as John Barthwick, sen., and Mr. Harold Linzell marred an otherwise satisfactory rendering of the detective, Snow, by an imperfect knowledge of his lines. Miss Ada Besford had her moments as the depressed charwoman, Mrs. Jones, and otherwise played the part on accepted lines; but Miss Mabel Tranter, as Mrs. John Barthwick, was inclined to monotony of diction and action. A brief but telling appearance as the landlady, Mrs. Seddon, was made by Miss Audrey May, and Mrs. Grace Cross showed ability, and was very cleverly successful in the difficult part of the unknown lady. Other parts were efficiently filled by Miss Kitty Flower as Wheeler, the maid; by Mr. N. Waite as Livens, and by Messrs. B. Hanes, G. Mellor, R. Drever, Lawler, Carpenter, and Cross as various officials in the police court scene. The make-up in all cases was particularly good. At the fall of the curtain Mrs. Hasluck appeared with the students in answer to the call of the large audience.

A company has been formed, with a capital of £30,000, to acquire from the executors and trustees of James Macready Chute, deceased, the Prince's Theatre, Park-row, Bristol, together with all licences, contracts, bar, and other fittings, &c., and goodwill, and to continue and develop the undertaking. The subscription list opened on Tuesday, and will close on or before Monday next. Among the directors are Abigail Philomena Chute, John Hart, Fred. W. Wyndham, and John F. Graham.

At Bangor Police Court, last week, Miss Moresco, an artiste taking part in the pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," now running at the new County Theatre, applied for a licence for her eleven-year-old sister to take part in the pantomime throughout. Asked about the child's education, Miss Moresco said she went to school in every town the company played in. The Mayor (Mr. T. J. Williams, headmaster of St. Paul's School): Do you think it is any good for the child to be moved from one school to another like that?—Well, replied the applicant, her education has not deteriorated. The Mayor: You think it is an advantage?—The applicant: Yes, I do. (Laughter.) The Magistrates' Clerk: You get every variety of schoolmaster. (Laughter.)—Yes. The application was granted.

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OUR AMATEURS.

The Merrie Andrews D.S., who are largely recruited from the ranks of the O.U.D.S., presented Mr. St. John Hankin's four-act comedy, "The Cassilis Engagement," at the Court Theatre on Friday and Saturday last. The very good cast was strengthened by the presence of Miss Noel Mackern, whose charming appearance and easy and intelligent acting as Mrs. Cassilis formed the clou of the performance. The support was very equal, and where all were so good it is difficult to particularise. Mr. T. Wingfield Heale was not quite as well suited as on former occasions with the part of Geoffrey Cassilis, but nevertheless gave an earnest and ingenious reading of the character. Miss May Hansell was primly good as the country parson's wife, Mrs. Herries; and Miss Peggy Ledward as Lady Mabel Venning sang prettily in the third act. Miss Theodora Hess made all her points as the vulgar but good-hearted Mrs. Borridge, and Miss Joyce Austin Taylor cleverly conveyed the veneer of refinement of Ethel Borridge. Mr. Cuthbert Maunder made the most of his opportunities in his short appearance as Major Warrington. The play, which was produced by Mr. Graham Colmer, was excellently mounted and dressed, and the London Playing Fields Society, in whose aid the performances were given, should materially benefit by the efforts of the M.A.D.S.

In the cast of "The Yeomen of the Guard," as performed by the South London Opera Society at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Jan. 20, there were not, we imagine, many of the original members of the Society who took part in its presentation of the work 14 years ago. With the strong chorus and capable principals the performances on Monday and Wednesday last might rank with many professional productions. Mr. Ben Osborne was very well cast as the "fool in motley," Jack Point, his good singing and clever acting, as well as his agile dancing and appropriate facial expression, contributing to an embodiment of all-round excellence. He was seconded in his efforts by Miss Louie White as Elsie, who, however, was better as a singer than as an actress. Miss Edith Venables acted capitally as Phœbe Meryll, scoring specially in the Key scene with Wilfred and in her show of sisterly affection for Fairfax. Mr. W. J. Bayley's fine presence and voice helped to make a gallant figure of Col. Fairfax, and Mr. Alan Cooper was gruesomely good as Wilfred Shadbolt. Though Miss Edith Judge's make-up was scarcely old enough for Dame Carruthers, her good voice was heard to advantage in the solos and concerted pieces in which she took part. Other good representations were the Sir Richard Cholmondeley of Mr. Harry Tollfree, the stolid Sergeant Meryll of Mr. A. J. Bryant, and the pleasing Leonard of Mr. Don Osborne, the First and Second Yeomen and Citizens being intelligently played by Messrs. R. M. Riley, A. McDonald Fraser, A. R. Measures, and H. E. Hogg. The excellent orchestra, under Mr. Leonard C. Venables, contributed largely to the general success.

The two little new plays by Miss Winifred St. Clair, which were presented at the Unitarian Church, Effra-road, Brixton, on Monday and Tuesday last, do not call for very special praise or blame. Of "Heartless Mr. Jones" (in two acts), the sub-title—"an old-fashioned comedy all about nothing"—may be taken as a summary of its contents. The two daughters of the landlady of the "Old King's Head," Shinglebay, are discovered disputing the possession of the guests, Mr. Hamble and Mr. Luton. The latter have themselves fallen in love with Lady Montholme, who, under the name of Jones, has sought rest from the troubles of town at the inn. Lady Montholme will have nothing to do with them, and the party is further augmented by a real Mr. Jones, dubbed "heartless" from a constant habit of light chaffing. A letter dropped by Mr. Jones in the garden causes some rather unnecessary complications, but it being finally revealed that Mr. Jones and Lady Montholme are man and wife, their reconciliation and a general happy ending follows. The piece was fairly well acted by a company which included the authoress, who took the part of Lady Montholme; Mr. Graham Abbott, very good as the stuttering "swell," Mr. Luton; Miss Dorothy Manning, a young actress who showed a good deal of promise in the part of the petulant Mary; and Mr. Graham Rowlands, who was capital as the bright, loquacious, and "heartless" Mr. Jones. Miss K. Edwards, Miss Tyrrell, and Mrs. F. W. Lambe completed the cast. The second piece, a propagandist Suffrage playlet, "Two of the Odd Boys," owed its chief success to the good acting and fine elocution of Miss Irene Greenleaf in the part of Bertha, who succeeds, mainly whilst disguised as a man, in completely proving her case to her own satisfaction and to that of the quiescent "professor," and of his landlady, Mrs. Rowley. Mr. F. W. Lambe and Miss St. Clair were quite satisfactory in these two last small parts. Instrumental and vocal selections of music were acceptably given during the intervals.

After enjoying the last of the seventeen items of the popular dramatic and musical entertainment given by the London Operatic and Dramatic Society at the Cripplegate Theatre on Thursday evening, we were prepared to endorse the remark overheard from one of the large and well-pleased audience: "The cheapest two bob's worth you've had in your life!" Of the many good things, well rendered, it is impossible to make detailed mention. The L.O.D.S. chorus and orchestra, who have worked so well together in the past under their popular conductor, Mr. J. Stanley-Verde, gave an excellent rendering of a new choral "Border" ballad by J. H. Maunder, and of German's "The yeomen of England," Mr. Edward Thompson being an acceptable solist in the latter item. The orchestra alone also played finely some selections from "Patience," Offenbach's popular "Barcarolle," and some of Rosse's incidental music to "The Merchant of Venice." Miss Frances Glenister renewed favourable impressions with a ballad by J. H. Maunder and with a stately rendering of Queen Elizabeth's song from "Merrie England." Miss Rhoda Whiley gave with great effect the striking valse-song from the same opera. Miss Carrie Hedges successfully recited, and the members of the Collyer Concert Party were particularly smart and amusing on the lines laid down by the "Follies," Mr. Cuthbert Sledmere scoring with a humorous character song, "Sydney's holidays." Last, but not least, the dancing items, of which there were four, should specially be praised. Miss Nancy Borrett was the inventor and producer of the beautiful "Ballet of Jewels," excellently staged, with special scenery, by Mr. G. A. Toplis, and gracefully danced by a number of clever children; and of a dainty Early Victorian dancing scena entitled "The Days of Crinoline," given for the first time by Mr. Edward Thompson and the Misses Bertha Sandland, Muriel Strickson, and Nancy Borrett. Miss Strickson and Miss Borrett also appeared in a grim "Apache" dance, and Miss Bertha Sandland footed an Irish jig with delightful lightness and any amount of vim. The Society is to be congratulated on this latest proof of its versatility and initiative.

In the Provinces.

The Blackburn Meister Singers' Amateur Operatic Society are appearing at the Theatre Royal, Blackburn, in Gilbert and Sullivan's "Mikado," and a splendid opening performance was witnessed by a large house on Monday evening. The company have had the advantage of a specially competent coach in Mr. George Thorne, and there is no doubt they have profited greatly by his experience. The cast is a most capable one. Mr. Walter Roberts as Koko quickly got into his stride (or rather "wobble"), and was the life and soul of the piece. He was easy and natural in his part, and his clear enunciation was a feature of his performance. Mr. Robert Hull made a stately Pooh Bah, and used a powerful baritone voice to much advantage in his musical numbers. Mr. Edward Dean as Nanki Poo sang his songs in splendid fashion, and acted most naturally. Mr. Robert Turner was a capital Mikado, and scored a big success in his song. Mr. Herbert Arkwright filled the part of Pish Tush, and looked and acted the rôle well. Miss Jennie Ibbotson was a charming Yum Yum, and her singing and graceful acting in her song, "The sun whose rays," was deservedly encored. Miss Ada Crampton also looked charming, and played well as Pitti Sing, and the same may be said of Miss Marie Sellers as Peep Bo; they were indeed a trio of charming and clever little ladies. Miss Kitty Ferguson sang beautifully as Katisha, and acted the part well. The chorus, which was an exceptionally large one, got a splendid volume of tone, and the chorus work was a feature of the performance. Mr. Henry Coleman, F.R.C.O., conducted. The performance is for the benefit of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary, which has already benefited to the extent of £1,000 by the efforts of the above society. The theatre has been lent by Mr. Harry Lyons, and the whole opera produced under the direction of Mr. George Thorne, late D'Oyly Carte's No. 1 Company.

The Peel Players appeared on Thursday evening last at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, in two plays, "Illiam Kodhere's Will" and "The Charm." They were specially written by Mr. Christopher R. Shimmin for the Manx Language Society. The playhouse was crowded, and the performance was under the distinguished patronage of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Lord Raglan, and those people who would appear in a Manx "Who's Who" if such a volume were published. The plot of "Illiam Kodhere's Will" is slight, the author relying more on character drawing and national incident than dramatic values. Kodhere makes his will, leaving the bulk of his money to his illegitimate son, who is engaged to the eldest daughter of his great friend, Captain Cowley. His wife hides the will after his death in the chimney, but is seen by a boy, Huan Cowley, and the project is defeated. The play has humour and pathos, and was received with great applause. It was admirably performed. Miss E. Christian as Nora Cowley and Miss H. Vick as her younger sister, Kirrie, were sympathetic. Miss A. Preston made a clever study of Mrs. Kodhere; to the life she showed the old Manx woman of a bygone generation, and Miss A. Keegan presented a Phil May sketch of Liza, the typical Manx servant. Miss A. V. Caine was of value to the production as Mrs. Moore. Mr. J. W. Kelly as Cowley, the skipper of the herrin' fleet, was not only picturesque but faithful to the curious traits and idiosyncrasies of an isolated community who conserve the forgotten traditions, and are only known to the great world—and then casually—through the romances of Hall Caine. Huan, the son of the house, the pickle of the family, was enacted by a clever youngster, Master E. Vick, who emphasised his importance to Mr. Christopher Shimmin's thesis by his boyish insouciance. Mr. C. R. Shimmin added romance to the hero, Dan Quilliam. Mr. C. W. Palmer in his portrayal of Quirk, a young farmer, was illuminating. The schoolmaster of Mr. L. Lucas had the definite value of a determined study of a distinct personality peculiar to Hall Caine-land. It accentuated the difference of old-time parochialism and school board veneer. Mr. T. Dodd and Mr. S. Harrison presented realistic studies of Manx fishermen. Also Mr. W. B. Meyrick as Chalse, the beggar man, was most cautious in handling a rôle fraught with artistic quagmires, but he won through. His performance was convincing and pathetic.

The pièce de résistance was followed by "The Charm," a comedy in one act. This is a Manx variant of Mr. Theyre Smith's "The Happy Pair." It is the charm of poetic fantasy and pathetic suggestion super-added; it was delicately played by Mr. T. Dodd as Jem Quilliam, Miss A. V. Caine as his wife and Miss A. Keegan as the old beggar woman, who is mistress of spells and charms, and can illustrate the power of "the herb." This is a new departure for Manxland, but the idea is to found a school of insular drama pertinent to the soil but pleasurable to the world at large

THE THREE ARTS BALL.

The Three Arts Ball on Wednesday night at the Queen's Hall, Langham-place, was a brilliant affair. At 10.30, the dance floor having been cleared, Mr. Dion Clayton Calthrop's "famous and unique" circus performance was given. The stewards were Messrs. Skene, Paternoster, Claude Taylor, Barcroft, Douglas Sladen, Sydney Blow, Harry Welchman, Dawson Milward, Basil Foster, Trevor Maurice, Cyril Bruce, R. P. Gossip, Gerald Ames, A. E. Mathews, and Baly, who wore the green and crimson badge of the Three Arts Club with red coats, satin breeches and silk stockings. Mr. Pélissier, in full "Folly" costume, was leader of the "Burlesque Orchestra." The "Child Wonder," Miss Muriel Beit, went through a series of pretty evolutions. Then came the Japanese Troupe, succeeded by the Champion Cow Puncher, followed by the Bareback Riders (one of whom was Miss Unity More from the Empire), and Mr. H. V. Esmond made a special entry as a Champion Jockey. The Lion Tamer and the two Cubs, from the Garrick Theatre, were followed by the Pangoes Risley Act, the Champion Girl Shot, the Egyptian Mystery (Miss Fay Compton) and her Chinese boys, one of whom was Mr. Ian Maclaren. Mr. Henry Ainley appeared as the "World's Slackest Wire Walker," and Miss Ida Crispi and Mr. Fred Farren danced to a "rag-time" accompaniment, the Dutch Troupe were very quaint, and the Lady Fire-eater and the Snake Charmer very thrilling. Mr. Donald Calthorp as Marcelline was a smart "knockabout," and pretty columbines were Miss Phyllis Bedells from the Empire Theatre and Miss Gladys Cooper from the Royalty. Artistic disguises were worn by Miss Margaret Walton as an animal trainer, leading a white bear, Mr. George Wilton as a clown, and Miss Eva Moore "a Dutch Girl." Miss Lena Ashwell was Herrick's "Julia." Mrs. Nigel Playfair was "Naughty Harriet and the Matches," Mr. Lee Hankey looked a Spaniard, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Muriel Beaumont, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan appeared in their original characters from "The Admirable Crichton," and Miss Pauline Chase, Miss Marie Löhr, and Miss Muriel Martin Harvey as circus riders. The Famous Lady Fire-Eater was really Miss Elsie Greenwood, the Chinese Boy Jugglers Miss Beryl Mercer and Miss Eastgate Smith, the Champion Girl Shot of the Wild West Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn, and the Marvellous Lion Tamer Miss Lilias Waldegrave.

Savoy Theatre (Glasgow, 1912), Ltd., is a company registered on the 4th inst., with a capital of £30,000, in 40,000 shares of 15s. each. It is established to acquire and carry on the Savoy Theatre, Glasgow, Ltd. (in liquidation).

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Business Communications should be addressed to THE MANAGER, "THE ERA" BUILDINGS, 5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. (two doors off Wellington-street). Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. BOOKER.—*We are making enquiries, and will let you know. Can you give the approximate time?*

LITA SMITH.—*We must look up your questions in a dictionary of dancers, and endeavour to answer you. We are not hopeful, however.*

F. C. FORTH (Belfast).—*We do not know of any work published on the subject. A good reliable stage carpenter from any of your local theatres should be able to fix up your stage for you. You might also write to Mr. T. Ireby Cape, stage-manager and producer, 18, Wavendon-avenue, Chiswick, who would arrange the whole thing, supply anything that is wanted, or advise you. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

DORRIEN HYLTON.—*Write to the Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street, W., the Theatrical Managers' Association—Herbert Blackmore, secretary, Garrick-street, W.C.; Touring Managers' Association—secretary, Mr. M. Martin, 26, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.; or Managers' Club, Wardour-street, W. We might put a par in "The Era" asking for information if you care to word it. You do not say whether it is a son or daughter making the enquiry. The front name is no guide. We do not answer questions by post.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BEECHAM.—Jan. 16, the wife of the late Charles Beecham, of a son. Mother and babe doing well.

DURELL.—Mrs. Leonard F. Durell, of a son. Is this the first theatrical baby since the boon?

MARRIAGES.

MR. and MRS. BILLIE LEE (Bonita Drescher), who were married in cowboy style last Wednesday, beg to thank the undermentioned for presents:—Mr. A. E. Neave, of Australia, a cheque; Mr. Prime, leather bag; Mr. Charlie Harris, of Bethnal Green, gold bracelet; Miss Poppett Ginnett, gold bracelet; Mrs. F. Ginnett, travelling bag; Miss Cleo Drescher, diamond earrings; Mr. F. Ginnett, gentleman's gold watch; Mr. Tippitt (solicitor), lady's gold watch; Mrs. Paul Martinetti, satchel; Mrs. Eugene Stratton, silver purse; Mrs. Marshall, of Wood Green, floral horseshoe; Mrs. Trowd, post-card album; Mr. Harry Hunter, silver mirror; Mr. Mick Ryan, of Australia, 30ft. stock whip; Mr. Frank Joy, hair brushes; Mr. Boden, &c.

DEATHS.

BRENNAN.—On Tuesday, Jan. 7, at Church Stretton, Margaret (Maggie) Brennan, aged 74. "She was my friend, faithful and just to me." Inserted by Kate Kilnack (Mrs. Horace Stanley).

IN MEMORIAM.

ANATO.—In ever-loving memory of Mlle. Nina Anato, wife of Mr. Walter Melbourne, who fell asleep Jan. 23, 1889.

BROOKE.—In ever-loving remembrance of my darling husband, Fred G. Brooke, author, actor, and sketch manager. Died Jan. 29, 1909.

HAMILTON.—In loving memory of darling Willie, beloved son of the late William Hamilton ("Hamilton's Excursions"). Never forgotten by his devoted mother. Jan. 24, 1894.

KITCHEN.—In loving memory of Dick Kitchen, who died Jan. 21, 1907. Never forgotten by his staunch friend and partner, Jack Osborne.

KITCHEN.—In ever loving and affectionate memory of my dear husband, Dick Kitchen, who passed away Jan. 21, 1907. Gone, but not forgotten by his wife, Hermance.

LAWRENCE.—In loving memory of Joe Lawrence, who died Jan. 24, 1910. "Gone but not forgotten" by his loving sons, Ernest, George, and Archie.

NELSON.—In loving memory of Harry G. Nelson, who left us Jan. 30, 1908. "Fast falls the eventide." Jeannie and Richard.

PATEMAN (BELLA).—In ever loving memory of my dear wife, who fell asleep Jan. 30, 1908. "Heaven would have no rainbow had the eyes no tears."—Robert Pateman.

WOMACK.—In fond memory of my darling husband, George Womack, who passed away Jan. 29, 1912. Never forgotten by his loving wife, Katie Marsh.

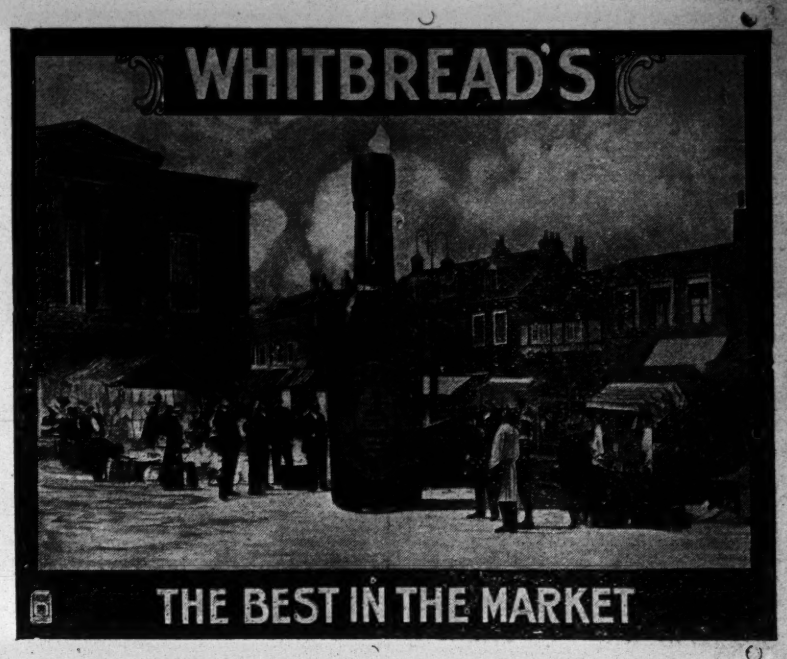
BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Bertha Kingston—Saturday, Jan. 25.
T. Gordon Blyth—Saturday, Jan. 25.
George Shelton—Sunday, Jan. 26.
J. James Hewson—Sunday, Jan. 26.
Blanche Doris—Sunday, Jan. 26.
Albert Voyce—Sunday, Jan. 26.
Harry Bedford—Sunday, Jan. 26.
Aggie Nolan—Monday, Jan. 27.
Iris Beerbohm Tree—Monday, Jan. 27.
Cecil Raleigh—Monday, Jan. 27.
Felix Pitt—Monday, Jan. 27.
Mabel Mannering—Tuesday, Jan. 28.
Frank Allen—Tuesday, Jan. 28.
Sir F. H. Cowen—Wednesday, Jan. 29.
Seymour Hicks—Thursday, Jan. 30.
Mlle. Ghita Corri—Thursday, Jan. 30.
Kate Flinn—Friday, Jan. 31.

A charity football match in aid of the Dewsbury Empire Cot Fund and other local charities, organised by Mr. E. J. Jackett, assistant-manager of the Empire, Dewsbury, took place on Tuesday last on the Victoria Ground, Savile Town, the teams being chosen from the Empire staff and Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime company, which is appearing in Dewsbury this week. Miss Florrie Forde kicked off the first half, and Miss Stella Esdaile (principal girl) the second. From a playing point of view the match was a big success, an evenly contested game resulting in a win for the "staff" by four goals to two, Jackett, Rhodes, Scholes, and Ward scoring for the former, and Haweridge and Victor for the pantomime team. Included in the pantomime team were Messrs. F. Summer, T. Dell, Harbord, Victor (of Victor and Louis), Haweridge, Kendrick, May, and Stead; the local staff team included Messrs. G. E. Smith (one of the proprietors), E. J. Jackett (assistant-manager), W. Rhodes (stage-manager), Ward, Scholes, Barlow, Jubb, and Sharples. Mr. Wattie Davies, the ex-Welsh International, officiated as referee. There was a very good attendance.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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The Foreign Theatre Society will give next week at the
COSMOPOLIS THEATRE,
Jan. 26, Spanish Plays, at 3 p.m.: "LOS MERITORIOS," by S. and J. Quintero; "EL MARIDO DE MAMA," by Luis Cocat and H. Criado; "EL BIGOTE RUBIO," by Miguel Ramos Carrion. Jan. 29, Italian Play, at 8.30 p.m.: "ROMANTICISMO," by Rovetta. For full information apply to the Secretary, the Foreign Theatre Society, 109, New Bond-street, W.

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ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.
The Annual General Meeting of the subscribers will be held on the stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, Feb. 14, 1913, at 11.30 for 12 noon, to receive the report of the Committee and the accounts for the year 1912.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
in the chair.
The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.
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will be held at
the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant,
on Friday, Feb. 7, 1913.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
will preside at Supper,
and many leading members of the profession have promised to be present.
Dancing 10.30. Supper 12.30. Carriages 4.30.
Tickets: One guinea (including supper). Members of the Theatrical and Musical Profession, 15s. each; Double ticket, 25s. Members of A.A., 10s. 6d. each. May be obtained from the Secretary, 32, Regent-street, W. (1753 Gerrard).
SUBSCRIPTIONS.
Members are respectfully requested that all subscriptions for 1913 are now due.
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ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
THE REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
and
ACCOUNTS OF EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS
and
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS
for the year ending Dec. 31, 1913.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-second ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the ACTORS' ASSOCIATION will be held on TUESDAY, Feb. 11, at 12 noon, at HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE (by kind permission of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree) for the following purposes, namely:—
To receive a Report of Accounts of Expenditure and Receipts and Liabilities and Assets.
To elect twenty-five Members of the Council, and to transact any further business of the Association brought before the Meeting by the Council or by any member who shall have given to the Secretary seven days' written notice thereof.
Dated this 21st day of Jan., 1913.
By Order of the Council,
DUNCAN YOUNG,
Secretary.
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By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix or Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act, of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference, by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1913.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

As far as the eliciting of any definite information concerning the progress of the above excellent scheme is concerned, matters stand exactly where they did last week. The public, like Miss ROSA DARTLE, still "wants to know, you know"; and still is kept in ignorance. We wish it to be clearly understood that we are not in any sense "attacking" either the National Theatre or the Memorial Committee of the Fund. We are merely asking for information; and what we cannot understand is why it has been denied to us and to the general public. It is the unusualness of the action that puzzles us. When one of our leading daily papers starts a subscription for some national object it even "goes out of its way" to court publicity and report progress. Lists of the donors are published; and if the object is to build a hospital or an institution, facts as to what is being done are at the disposal of every member of the public. Of course, in the case of a private speculation things are on a different footing. We have no right, for instance, to write to a leading actor and ask him for particulars as to how his projected new theatre is going on, and what is being done about the site, etc. We should be guilty of the great impertinence of prying into private affairs. The money is the man's own, and the information is likewise his personal property. But when a number of gentlemen go to the public and "send round the hat," then we maintain that it is a perfectly justifiable thing for that public to ask to be informed from time to time how matters are moving.

Secrecy is the mother of suspicion. Human nature being what it is, people will talk, and the action we took in 1909 did the Fund the greatest possible service in eliciting definite information, which we were happy to publish in our paper—with regrets for any pain given by our queries—and thus silence the buzz of curious comment which was audible. When we had been enabled to state that the £70,000 had been absolutely paid into the London County and Westminster Bank, and to give the name of the trustees, it was impossible for the most cynical to doubt or the most sceptical to sneer.

We all know very well, when a Committee contains a number of gentlemen whose arduous duties make it impossible for them to devote more than a portion of their time to an object, how apt the scheme is to languish for want of stimulating activity and propulsive power. The same man who would be violently energetic if it was a case of delay in building a house for himself will not be in the least indignant when it is a case of erecting a theatre for the nation, and when he is only one of many who divide responsibility. But that fact does not in the least affect the policy of concealment, which we believe to be a mistaken and unwise one. The latest excuse for the present delay in getting on with the National Theatre is the influence of politics at Spring Gardens. This seems to us very much like attributing the blue flies in the butchers' shops to the Government; but, supposing this statement to be correct—as we have no doubt it is—how is the inertia to be overcome? Certainly not by sitting in our armchairs and waiting in silence, but by setting a hornets' nest buzzing about the ears of the L.C.C. If that body allows political influences, or anything else, to obstruct the progress of the splendid National Theatre scheme, let the force of public opinion be brought to bear upon the offenders. And how is that public opinion to be manufactured if the Committee of the Fund persists in its policy of secrecy? How is the ordinary Shakespearean enthusiast, of which Mr. WILLIAM POEL is a good example, to be stimulated to action and effort if the Fund keeps him in the dark and refuses to answer his questions?

In matters of business, taste must take the second place. It may have been very impertinent of us to make the enquiries we did about the donor of the £70,000, etc.; but our "impertinence" at least elicited information which was never volunteered when we were passively polite. In the cause of the National Theatre we remain "impertinently" curious; and we are even ill-bred enough to put the following queries into print:—

1. What are the amounts contributed or collected by individuals, the names of those individuals, the places of collection, and the dates of paying in?

2. What is the rent of the offices at Whitehall House, and what are, and have been since the scheme was started, the salaries of the principal officials, and the general expenses of "running" the fund?

3. What is the exact nature of the "political obstacles" in connection with the L.C.C.?

4. What have been exactly the relations, financial and otherwise, between the fund and the Shakespeare Exhibition at Earl's Court?

We do not ask these questions in any hostile or suspicious spirit, but because we are warmly in favour of the National Theatre scheme, and because we believe that the present policy of privacy and delay is letting the matter grow cold, rendering the best friends of the movement dissatisfied and lukewarm, wasting valuable time, and doing the noble object which we all have at heart the utmost possible mischief.

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of Jan. 11 you published a letter of inquiry from Mr. Clarence Derwent, together with a leading article, asking the Committee of the Memorial Fund for information as to the present condition of its finances, and also as to what progress was being made towards collecting the rest of the half a million required to build the national memorial to Shakespeare in 1915. Have the Committee supplied any answer to these questions? It must be aware that not only the profession but the public at large are waiting anxiously for the information which you are seeking to extract from the body responsible for the management of this fund. It is a most astonishing thing that a large sum of money—apparently nobody even knows exactly the amount—should be so dealt with by a committee charged, as is the Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, with a public duty. It is almost inconceivable that no accounts should have been published, and that no information whatever should be given. The Committee should realise that the business which they are managing is one essentially for working in the light of day. If the Committee has really any serious intention of dealing efficiently with its business, then its members should realise that the more publicity they give to their movements the quicker will the funds they require roll into their coffers.

What is the amount which has been collected by the Committee? In one quarter it is spoken of as £80,000. Mr. Clarence Derwent, in his letter to you, placed the figure at £120,000. Which is correct? Will the Committee not see that they owe to the profession and the public an immediate answer to this simple question? If the figure £80,000 is correct, then what has the Committee been doing from its palatial offices in Whitehall during the three years that have passed since the first meeting held to deal with a National Theatre? For we know that £70,000 was given in one sum, whilst £10,000 was raised by Mrs. Cornwallis West through the Shakespeare Ball. A very simple sum gives the sum thus collected at £80,000, which is said in one quarter to be the amount in the hands of the Committee. Are we to assume, then, that the Committee have collected nothing? What, may I ask, has become of the various sums collected by various eminent actors as a result of the eloquent work which they have done in the cause they have so much at heart? In brief, what, if anything, is the Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund doing towards the building of a National Theatre? Are they obtaining any result whatever in return for their expenditure in office rent and other ways?

I saw a letter published in last week's "Era" from Mr. William Poel, himself a member of the General Committee, in which he said: "For three years I have been asking for information and accounts, and can obtain neither the one nor the other." How long shall we wait?—Yours, &c.,

A SHADE OF SHAKESPEARE.

"A MANAGER MISREPRESENTED."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones, and the record of English actors, as disinterested exponents of Shakespeare, does not inspire confidence. Hitherto, our actors have been uncontrolled by stage-managers in Shakespearean performances, because the question of considering the wishes and intentions of the author has never been regarded as a matter of any importance—a state of things that has been too long tolerated by the long-suffering public. But if neither reason nor experience justifies the assertion that an actor can be trusted to study his part from his author's point of view and not from his own, then Mr. Granville Barker is to be congratulated on his courage in attempting a very necessary reform.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM POEL.

Putney, Jan. 24, 1913.

The Tunbridge Wells Amateur Operatic Society will produce "Iolanthe" in April under the direction of Major Eggintor

THE ACTING OF GREAT ACTORS.

BY THE EDITOR.

No. III.—JOHN PHILIP KEMBLE.

Form and style are not enemies of genius, but the three qualities are seldom found in equal amounts in the same artist. Given genius and no form, and we get some of the less successful efforts of the eccentrics; given form without genius, and we get the school of acting of which John Philip Kemble was the representative.

In the first place—for, in an actor, personality counts for a great deal—Kemble was a very handsome man, with noble features and a strong, slight, symmetrical figure. A fine presence may have effects on a man's acting which are not always favourable. The handsome actor is inclined to exploit his advantages and emphasise his personal attractions. This Kemble certainly did. It is curious that this ideal "old school" actor should have had a bad voice. One always imagines him rolling forth ponderous periods in mellow tones; but the testimony as to the imperfections of his vocal organ is reliable. It was, however, what may be called a "highly trained" voice. Richard Sharp, writing to Henderson and describing Kemble's début, said "Now and then he was as deliberate in delivery as if he had been reading prayers, and had waited for the responses. Very careful study appears in all he says and does, but there is more singularity and ingenuity than simplicity and fire." The writer of an article in the "New Monthly Magazine" in 1825 says: "He had signal advantages of person, with almost equal defects of voice. He determined to become a noble actor, and succeeded by infinite perseverance and care. He formed a high standard in his own mind, and gradually rose to its level. His career, therefore, may be reviewed with that calm and increasing pleasure with which we contemplate the progressive advances of art. There were not wanting obstacles to retard his progress. But resolution prevailed. He went on calmly studying the principles of his art, and succeeded at last in presenting the stateliest pictures of Roman greatness, and giving the most appropriate expression to philosophic thought that it had entered into modern imagination to conceive."

In the present generation we can scarcely imagine the impression created by an actor of this sort on his public. The type only descended to us in imitators and mediocrities, and most of them are dead. The "crushed tragedian" was a caricature of the great actor of the Kemble school, with his defects magnified and his qualities at a minimum.

Sir Walter Scott, an excellent judge of acting thought Kemble's Macbeth, Lear, and Richard III. inferior in spirit and truth. "In 'Hamlet'" said Sir Walter, "the natural fixed melancholy of the prince places him within Kemble's range; yet many delicate and sudden turns of passion slip through his fingers. He is a lordly vessel, goodly and magnificent when going large before the wind, but wanting the facility to go 'ready about.'"

What his contemporaries, jealous, no doubt, of his success, thought of him, may be gathered from the following fragment of a conversation between Emery, Cooke, and Incledon, the singer:—

"Emery: 'He has no natur; not a bit. But then he never wur the feyther of a child, and that accounts for it.'

"Cooke: 'With the voice of an emasculated French horn, and the face of an itinerant Israelite, he would compete with me, sir; me—George Frederick Cooke! Wanted me to play Horatio to his Hamlet, sir! Let *him* play Sir Pertinax, that's all. I would like to hear him attempt the dialect.'

"Incledon: 'Attempt! The fact is, my dear boys, he'd attempt anything.' Here Incledon illustrated some of Kemble's attempts in a way the reader must imagine, and wound it up by saying, 'and, lastly, he actually attempted to sing, d—— me, in the presence of the *national* singer of England, Charles Incledon; d—— me!'"

Byron, who was always a friendly critic of the stage, said Kemble was "the most supernatural of actors." Charles Lamb mentions that Kemble would sometimes "slumber over the level parts of an heroic character." Benjamin Haydon wrote: "Kemble came into a part with a stately dignity, as if he disdained to listen to Nature, however she might whisper, until he had examined and weighed the value of her council."

The amount of pains he took to improve was remarkable. Before he played Hamlet he copied out the part forty times, and he wrote an analysis of the character of Macbeth. He left nothing to chance, nothing to the inspiration of the moment. As Mrs. Clement Parsons pithily puts it, he was a classic, as opposed to an impressionist actor. He thought out the flexure of every finger. He put "weighty sense into every line." He was fertile in new readings of Shakespeare. His pronunciation of "aches" as "aitches" in a revival of "The Tempest" is historical.

"A wrong word, or one wrongly pronounced, affected him as a wrong note in music affects the musician." Coleridge, in his "Table Talk," tells how Kemble was discoursing after dinner at Lord Guildford's, when the servant announced his carriage:—

"He—Kemble—nodded, and went on. The announcement took place twice afterwards; Kemble each time nodding his head a little more impatiently, but still going on. At last, and for the fourth time, the servant entered, and said, 'Mrs. Kemble says, sir, she has the rheumat*ise*, and cannot stay.' 'Add *ism*!' dropped John, in a parenthesis, and proceeded quietly in his harangue."

He was often "stagey" in private life. The late Rev. C. E. Bodham Donne used to tell a story of the actor's entering an umbrella shop, picking out a walking-stick, and saying to the shopman:—

"This likes me well, indeed. The cost? the cost?"

He could not play comedy, and had the grace to admit it. When someone criticised his Charles Surface, Kemble said:—

"Well, now, that gentleman is not altogether singular in his opinion. A few months ago, having taken a glass too much, I inadvertently quarrelled with a gentleman in the street. This gentleman called on me the following morning for an explanation. 'Sir,' said I, 'when I commit an error, I am always ready to atone for it; and if you will only name any reasonable reparation in my power——' 'Sir,' interrupted the gentleman, 'at once I meet your proposal, and name one. Solemnly promise, in the presence of this my friend, that you will never play Charles Surface again, and I am perfectly satisfied.' Well, I did promise, not from nervosity, as you may suppose, gentlemen; but because, though Sheridan was pleased to say that he liked me in the part, I certainly did not like myself in it."

He was not a born humorist. One night, when he was performing at some country theatre one of his most favourite parts, he was much interrupted, from time to time, by the squalling of a young child in one of the galleries. At length, angered by this rival performance, Kemble walked with solemn step to the front of the stage, and addressing the audience in his most tragic tones, said, "Ladies and gentlemen, unless the play is stopped, the child cannot possibly go on." The effect on the audience of this earnest interference in favour of the child may be conceived.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. WM. POEL.

In prosecution of our plan of endeavouring to gain information about the National Theatre we asked Mr. William Poel, a prominent member of the General Committee of the Fund, to give us his views on the subject.

"What is the state of things in the committee?" we asked Mr. Poel, who replied:—

"There are two parties on the Executive Committee, one caring nothing whatever about the National Theatre as a theatre in which Shakespeare's plays are to be acted—they represent the ideas of the scholars, the sculptors, and the artists, who believe that the glorification of the Swan of Avon is their special province, and wish his worship to be detached as far as possible from theatrical representation. The other section is what I may call the Actors and Public Party.

"The architects, the scholars, and the sculptors were indignant when the Lyceum Theatre meeting, under Earl Lytton, passed the matter into the hands of the profession and the general public, because that meant condemning their scheme for a big statue. A compromise was attempted, and it was suggested that the 'Scholars' Committee and Earl Lytton's Committee should join forces. The result of this, in practice, has been that everything the Theatre party want to do, the Scholars' party veto; and everything the Scholars' party want to do, the Theatre party veto. Had we a suitable Honorary Secretary, he might have humoured the parties and got them to agree on some practical lines. It is useless to adopt the policy of playing off one party against the other, and thus creating nothing but a deadlock. I understand there is a reserve project, which the inventor hopes, when the other parties are thoroughly wearied out by the deadlock, he will be able to bring into being. That scheme is the, in my opinion, utterly impracticable, one of going round the map of Europe forming local foreign Committees, who are to collect the money which England seems unable to collect for herself, and to erect a statue or cosmopolitan building, which is to absorb all the money, and would be perfectly useless as a practical building for acting in, but be an architectural monument of which Europe would be the owner."

"Then you think that the present system of secrecy and concealment is a mistake?"

"Absolutely. Nothing will be done properly with the Fund without publicity. Here am I, who have been for years a member of the General Committee, and am almost the originator of the movement, and yet I am as much in the dark as the man in the street as to what is actually being done with regard to the National Theatre."

"Is there any truth in the statement that the delay is being caused by political exigencies on the County Council?"

"That only refers to the question of a Council site. The real obstacle is the unhappy opposition of the two parties to which I have referred. I believe that to save the situation, which, in my opinion, is a very serious one, the only way is to call a meeting at which the profession and the public could exchange views, and urge the Executive to end its dissensions and get to business."

LADIES' "MILESTONES" DINNER.

The members of the Lyceum Club had a "Milestones" dinner at the club on Monday, when some characteristic and appropriate costumes were worn. Mrs. Matthew Arnold, who was in the chair, proposed the toast of "Our Guests."

Mr. Charles Vane, speaking on "Mid-Victorians, 1860-1885," said there was one milestone he remembered which should be of white marble, and the name which memory inscribed on it was "Henry Irving."

Mr. Sydney Grundy, responding for the later Victorian era, said that those who had seen "Milestones" would have formed some idea of how the people of that date dressed, but there was nothing in the play like his hat. It was a hat—at least, it was not a hat; that was what was the matter with it. It was a creation. It consisted of a dado, surmounted by a series of panels, surmounted by a frieze, surmounted by a dome. (Laughter.) Whatever his failings might be, he did think much allowance was to be made for a man who was launched on life in such a hat as that. (Laughter.) Victorian drama, when he first began to know it, consisted chiefly of puns and tights. He must say for the Victorian tight that it was not nearly as indecent as many of the transparent diaphanous draperies that he saw to-day. As for the puns—words failed him. They could not imagine what it was like. But there came along a man named W. S. Gilbert, who took the pun by the throat and throttled it. Then came the revolution, and he claimed that Robertson alone was a sufficient justification for the Victorian drama. It was Robertson who sowed the seed of which we were reaping the fruit. It was Robertson who aroused the public and intellectual interest in our stage, and by the authority of his plays alone he (the speaker) claimed for the despised and rejected mid-Victorian drama, the renaissance of the English stage. He (the speaker) was too old; he did not want to reform. He stood alone and unabashed, the sole surviving representative of the artificial play the representative of the days when they did not hack slices out of life, but tried to write plays, unreal things. Those were the days when the theatre was so vulgar as to be theatrical, and the drama to be dramatic. The critics told them that the drama was dead, but he had the very best reasons for knowing that the drama was still very much alive. He always maintained that the theatre ought to offer its hospitality to plays of every description, supposing they were the best of their kind. In his opinion, but for the spade-work of the Victorian era, Shavian drama, for instance, would have been impossible.

Miss Bertha Graham spoke on "Manners and Customs, 1885-1900," and

Mr. Charles Brookfield, dealing with "The Present Day," said the drama had never been so healthy as it was to-day. It was in an extraordinarily flourishing condition, and that was to a great extent due not so much to the influence of Ibsen as to the decentralisation of the drama which was going on to-day. The growth of the repertory theatre was bringing fresh blood and spirit into the theatre, and that was one of the most potent forces in the theatrical world at the present time. We were changing from a sham realism to an actual reality. The stage was much closer to the actual conditions of life, and was attracting to its standard a great number of brilliant young men. He could not understand why intelligent people could go and be wrapped up in any sort of drama which represented nothing like real life at all, and why it should be considered necessary to go to the theatre merely for amusement. He was thankful, however, for the fact that the new drama, even if it did not attract people, did at least upset them for the old style.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council Meeting, held at Regent-street, on Tuesday, Jan. 21. Present: Mr Arthur Dennis (in the chair), Messrs. John Mortimer, James Gelderd, Adnam Sprange, Fredk. James, William Devereux, F. J. Arlton, W. G. Fay, Murri Moncrieff, Clarence Derwent, Fredk. Morland, Miss Lucy Sibley, Miss Laura Leycester, Miss Vita Spencer, and Mr. D. Young, secretary.

The secretary read a letter from the hon. solicitors acknowledging receipt of the cheque in payment of their account.

The secretary read a letter from a member complaining of the sanitary condition of a provincial theatre, and received instructions to take the usual procedure.

The secretary read a letter from a member with regard to a breach of contract by a manager, and was instructed to get expert evidence on the claim and also to send the letters to the hon. solicitor for advice. Agreed to unanimously.

The secretary read a letter from the secretary of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Fund thanking the Council for their letter, and pointing out that a meeting of the committee was about to take place, after which he hoped to send the necessary information.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Arlton, and on the motion of Mr. Sprange, seconded by Mr. Devereux, adopted.

HON. SOLICITOR'S REPORT.

The hon. solicitor reported that he had interviewed two members, and had sent I.O.U.s to the members and was issuing a summons against a manager on behalf of a member.

The secretary presented the list of nominations for Council, 1913, as follows:—

NAME.	PROPOSER.	SECONDER.
*Annerley, Fredk.	John Mortimer	Charles Aldred
*Arlton, F. J.	John Mortimer	Arthur Dennis
Bentley, Grendon	Evelyn Cecil	Francis Roberts
*Broughton, P.	John Mortimer	Arthur Dennis
Butler, J. B.	Norman Yates	R. N. O'Connor
Cattley, Cyril	Clarence Derwent	F. J. Arlton
Cecil, Evelyn	Frederick James	Clarence Derwent
Chester, Beatrice	Arthur Dennis	John Mortimer
*Collings, C. F.	Charles Harley	Vivian Gilbert
Collins, John R.	John Mortimer	Evelyn Cecil
*Coffin, C. Hayden	Clarence Derwent	John Mortimer
Dale, J. L.	Adnam Sprange	Beatrice Chester
*Dennis, Arthur	John Mortimer	F. J. Arlton
*Derwent, C.	Cyril Cattley	F. J. Arlton
*Devereux, W.	F. J. Arlton	Letty Paxton
*Fay, W. G.	Frederick James	A. E. W. Barnes
Flynne, Madge	Fredk. Morland	Lucy Sibley
*James, Fredk.	Fredk. Morland	John Mortimer
King, Charles	A. E. W. Barnes	Evelyn Cecil
King, Judith	Fewlass Llewellyn	Gracie Vicat
*Leycester, L.	Chas. Windermere	J. B. Butler
*Moncrieff, Murri	Norman Yates	Evelyn Cecil
*Morland, Fredk.	Lucy Sibley	Hilda Hatton
*Mortimer, John	C. Hayden Coffin	Clarence Derwent
Munro, Douglas	C. F. Collings	Vita Spencer
Preston, Gladys	Clarence Derwent	W. G. Fay
Roberts, Francis	Cyril Ashford	George Dudley
*Sibley, Lucy	Theresa Osborne	Sydney Compton
*Sprange, Adnam	Rollo Balmain	Fredk. Morland
*Spencer, Vita	F. J. Arlton	Clarence Derwent
Story, George F.	Laura Leycester	Ruth Wingrove
*Walker, Chris	Arthur Dennis	John Mortimer
*Webster, Ben	Evelyn Cecil	J. B. Butler
*Weaver, Wyn	Arthur Dennis	John Mortimer
Yates, Norman	Janette Steer	Adnam Sprange

* Members of the present Council who offer themselves for re-election.

On the motion of Mr. Fay, seconded by Miss Spencer, the secretary received instructions to have the voting papers printed.

The Kitchen Committee's report was read by Mr. Mortimer, and adopted.

Mr. Boughton, of Messrs. Barnes, Dunn, and Boughton, auditors, submitted the report and accounts to the Council. Mr. Sprange moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Mr. Mortimer, and this was carried with one dissentient. Mr. Arlton proposed, and Mr. Sprange seconded, that the revenue account and balance sheet be printed. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Dennis presented the draft of the annual report of the position of the Association, and after discussion and alterations it was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Arlton, seconded by Mr. Devereux.

The Ball Committee's report was tendered by Mr. Mortimer, who explained that several tickets had been sold for the ball on Feb. 7, and he advised early application for tickets.

Elections.—Alice M. Howe, Douglas M. Frost, Oliver G. Johnson, P. Hawksworth Lax, Doris Murray, and Marie Leigh.

Reinstatement.—Marie Rignold.

Nominations.—Monica Marshall and S. Dunlop.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Pall Mall Magazine." February. Price 6d. net. Published by Iliffe and Sons, Ltd.

"From Studio to Stage." Reminiscences of Weedon Grossmith. Written by himself. 367 pages. Illustrated. Price, 16s. net. Published by John Lane.

"The Motor 'Bus and the Ratepayer." By Horace M. Wyatt. Twenty pages. Illustrated. Price one penny. Published by Iliffe and Sons, Ltd.

"The Laws of Leflo." By the Author of "Miss Molly." 181 pages. Price 2s. net. Published by John Ouseley, Ltd.

"The Musical Directory Annual and Almanack, 1913." 500 pages. Price 3s. net. Published by Rudall, Carte and Co., Ltd.

"Mightier than the Sword." By Alphonse Courlander. 352 pages. Price 6s. Published by T. Fisher Unwin.

The annual ball and supper of the Actors' Association, we would remind our readers, will be held at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Friday, Feb. 7. Sir Herbert Tree will preside at the supper, and many prominent members of the profession have announced their intention of being present.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard had to undergo a second slight operation on Monday. His successful pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," finishes at the Crystal Palace to-night, and his eighth spring season commences on Monday with "The Monk and the Woman."

The run of "Wonderful Grandmama," at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, will end this afternoon, and Wednesday next will see the last presentation of "The Rivals." Next week, by special request, Miss Horniman's Canadian company will give matinées on Monday and Wednesday, and an afternoon performance on Thursday of John Masefield's "Nan" prior to their departure for Canada the following day. On Friday evening Bernard Shaw's "Candida" will be staged for one night only. The cast will include Miss Sybil Thorndike, Mr. Lewis Casson, Miss Muriel Pratt, Mr. Francis Hope,, and other members of Miss Horniman's company.

A reading of "The Vikings at Helgeland" was given last Sunday by the Ibsen Club, at its studio in Long Acre. Leading parts were admirably read by Miss Pax Robertson and Mr. Rathmell Wilson. "Ornulf," the old Viking, and his favourite son, "Thorolf," were read with keen understanding by two Danish actors, Messrs. Sigurd Schäffer and Otto Mathiesen. Also to be commended are Mr. Ned Llewelyn, Mr. O. L. Owen, and Miss C. A. Arfwedson, who read with feeling. Miss Arfwedson, who arranged this highly interesting reading, has now resigned the secretaryship of the Ibsen Club.

VARIETY GOSSIP

Miss Florence Smithson, at the conclusion of her engagement at old Drury, will return to the variety stage, where her delightful singing has already added immensely to her prestige as a prima donna. Artistes of her calibre are rare; and Mr. Harry Burns, of Walter House, Strand, who is her exclusive business-manager, will be besieged with offers for a singer, whose personality is as sweet as her voice.

Miss Margaret Halstan goes to the Palladium on Monday with the successful sketch, "The Great Look," produced recently at the Coliseum. She will be supported by Mr. T. N. Weguelin, who, as before, will play the husband, and Mr. Arthur Chesney, brother of Mr. Edmund Gwenn, who has done excellent work at the Liverpool Repertory Theatre.

Miss Elise Craven, who followed up her success on the London variety stage and in Paris by playing the leading part in "Cinderella" at the Prince's Theatre, has been captured by Mr. George Edwardes for his autumn production at Daly's. This clever little girl's advancement has been extraordinary since she first excited admiration as the Fairy Queen at His Majesty's, and she has always appeared in star parts, both on the variety and theatrical stages—a remarkable experience in one so young.

Mr. H. Marsh Allen, who has helped largely in the wonderful success of the "Glad Eye," is to leave the theatre temporarily for the halls, and will shortly produce a serious dramatic playlet written for him by that well-known journalist, "The Judge," of the "Evening Standard." It is understood that Mr. Allen will be supported by Signorina Bazzi, whose father is a much-respected member of the Italian Colony in London.

One of the latest recruits to the variety stage is Miss Marie Studholme, the well-known actress, who, together with Miss Tiny Grattan, Mr. Cecil Burt, and Mr. Walter Pearce, is appearing this week at the Manchester Hippodrome in a new comedy sketch, "Her Ladyship," written by Harry Grattan. Miss Studholme comes from the little town of Saltaire, in Yorkshire. She went on the stage at about seventeen, with no "influence," but a pretty little voice, a winning manner, and more than enough beauty for the heroine of a musical comedy. Since then she has played on several occasions in Manchester, where she has a large circle of friends and admirers.

Fred Kitchen, one of the finest comedians on the variety stage, will be now—as he puts it—"on his own," and as a medium for his funniments he is to be blessed with "Bungle's Luck," in the concoction of which he has had the valued co-operation of Charles Baldwin and E. T. Matthews. It is called a musical comedy sketch, and is in three scenes. The scenery, which is of a most elaborate character, is painted by R. McCleery, of Drury Lane, and the music is by Dudley Powell, who is to personally conduct. The London production is fixed for March 10 at the Victoria Palace. Amongst those already engaged for the attractive production are Miss Kate Forster, Miss Aggie Morris, Messrs. Chas. Baldwin, J. Coyle, Helmore Frith, Henri Lappo, and others.

Press exchanges tell us of the wonderful success of My Fancy, who opened at the Tivoli, Sydney, on Jan. 11, after playing Adelaide and Melbourne. She is hailed as the premier sand and soft-shoe dancer in the world. They know how to boom in Australia, apparently. Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh, the impresario who has acquired the late Mr. Harry Rickards' interests for the announcements of My Fancy, has the largest display of printing ever seen in Melbourne. The posters are twenty feet by seven.

Miss Elise Clerc, a famous eccentric dancer as well as a most successful instructress in the art, has just accepted a very good offer from South Africa, to which country she departs in about ten days' time. She will take with her a full company, which she has rehearsed in London, so that they may start operations immediately on their arrival. Elise was a star at the Empire before she became maitresse de ballet at the Alhambra. She was responsible for the training of Miss Elise Craven, now playing Cinderella at the New Prince's.

The special kind of curate who peeps at the world of the halls and suffers from paroxysms of shyness is a favourite character with Mr. Ernest Shand. Now we hear that the reverend brother has become infected with rag-time, and to deal with his love of syncopation Mr. Worton David and Mr. Bert Lee have written a new song, "The rag-time curate," which has been a huge success at the Empire, South Shields, and will be tried by Ernest again next week at the Empire, Newcastle.

An interesting fixture will be the re-appearance in London, after a lengthened absence in the United States, of Miss Jessie Millward. Recently Miss Millward, having secured some powerful one-act plays, that give scope for her great histrionic abilities, made her advent into vaudeville in America, and her business-manager, Mr. John Donald, has now arranged with Mr. Louis Zeitlin for the presentation on Feb. 10, at the Chelsea Palace, of one, entitled "In the Gray of the Dawn," by Mary Asquith and David Higgins. This play is described as "a gripping story of the New York underworld."

Miss Millward is an actress of rare refinement, and her name stands for that which is best in the drama on both sides of the Atlantic. She served her apprenticeship at the Lyceum, making her début as Hero in "Much Ado," under Sir Henry Irving, with whom she remained some years. Her last appearance with the distinguished actor was at the Lyceum as Marguerite in "Faust." She was five years leading lady at the Adelphi and Drury Lane. For the last few years Miss Millward has held a distinguished position as a foremost actress in the United States, having gone out there to be the leading lady at the Empire Theatre, New York. This was followed by important engagements with the principal managements in America, notably Charles Frohman's. Miss Millward paid a short visit to London two or three years back, when she produced, under her own management, "A School for Husbands" at the Scala Theatre.

The presentation of a work by Max Beerbohm, the brilliant caricaturist, and author of "The Happy Hypocrite," at the Palace Theatre on Monday, would of itself be sufficient to draw a large audience, but the occasion, of course, will be made doubly interesting by the variety début of Sir George Alexander. A feature of the production of "A Social Success" will be the excellent company supporting the popular lessee of St. James's. Mr. Fred Kerr and Mr. C. M. Lowne, two of our best legitimate comedians, are cast for the parts of the Earl of Amersham and Henry Robbins, respectively, and Miss Kate Cutler, who has before supported Sir George as leading lady at St. James's, will appear as the Countess of Amersham. Sir George will play Tommy Dixon, the scene of action being a sitting-room in Tommy's flat.

Mr. H. Woodford, whose resignation of his position at the Alhambra takes effect from March 1, will terminate on that date twenty-four years' association with the company owning that house. During the last nine or ten years he has filled at various times the positions of business-manager, acting-manager, and treasurer.

The resignation of Mr. George Byng is also announced. As conductor of the Alhambra orchestra since the departure of the late Georges Jacobi, Mr. Byng has sustained the high traditions of that fine band, and has shown much ability and taste as a composer and arranger of the music for the various divertissements that have been produced with such frequency at the older house of ballet in the Square. Mr. Byng was the conductor at the Shaftesbury when that house was opened by Mrs. Lancaster Wallis with a revival of "As You Like It."

Mr. W. Ker Chatto, who has been manager of the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, for the past ten years, is leaving at the end of the present month to take up the managership of the Empire Palace of Varieties, Middlesbrough. During his managership of the Grand Opera House Mr. Chatto has earned the respect and esteem of a very wide circle, and will take with him to the Empire the best wishes of his many friends.

Mr. Frank Parker, who has only been manager of the Middlesbrough Empire for a short time, is leaving to take up an appointment with Mr. T. Thompson, proprietor of the Middlesbrough Hippodrome. Mr. Parker is to manage several of Mr. Thompson's popular music halls in the North of England.

Convinced that charm of voice is a valuable factor in the selling of goods, Mr. Selfridge arranged for Miss Henriquette Maude—the lady whose purity of tone and cultured elocution captivated the public when delivering her "travel talks" two or three years ago—to give a lecture to his assistants on Friday (yesterday), at 7 o'clock, on "Voice Magnetism as a Business Asset." A series of lectures on this fascinating subject will probably be arranged by Miss Maude.

Brave little Tommy Judge, son of Jack Judge, the singing comedian, is quite a young hero. Last week he saw a little girl fall into the canal at Oldbury, near Birmingham, and without a moment's hesitation he plunged in and rescued her. The deed is the more remarkable when we consider that Tommy is only ten. The Royal Humane Society are awarding the plucky boy a medal in recognition of his intrepid conduct.

An important alteration is to be made at the Camberwell Palace on Monday next. Mr. A. W. Deer, the manager, has always made the comfort of his patrons his first thought, and now a further scheme for their convenience is to be given a fair trial. The seating arrangements have been thoroughly reorganised, and in future it will be possible to book in advance and have reserved any seat in the house. This innovation should prove a welcome change.

Dr. Walford Bodie last week, at the Empire, Cowdenbeath, broke all records for the building since it was opened, the huge house being nightly packed to the doors. The takings on Saturday night alone were over £100, without early doors. Mr. Penman, the proprietor, has offered the doctor three return dates at big increase. This week the doctor is again breaking all records at the Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, despite the fact of it being his tenth visit to the town. Next week the doctor returns to Paisley Theatre after an absence of only seven months.

Several labourers were talking outside a provincial hall about the respective merits of the comedians they preferred in the programme they had just enjoyed, when the name of George Mozart cropped up. "Oh, he ain't much cop," said one. "Not much cop? Ain't he, though. Why he's name's up in our picture palace 'long o' Handel's and all the other big 'uns." Then, in a tone of lofty contempt, "Shows what you know about George Mozart"

Mr. Dudley Powell, the popular chef d'orchestre of Mr. Fred Karno's Stratford pantomime, "Mother Goose," has accepted an appointment as musical-director with Mr. Fred Kitchen in "Bungle's Luck," the music of which is from his fertile pen. At the conclusion of the pantomime Mr. Powell is severing a long and pleasant engagement as chief musical-director to Mr. Karno extending over ten years, during which time he has been wholly or partly responsible for the music of the successful sketches, "Saturday to Monday," "Moses and Son," "Mumming Birds," "The Bailiff," "The G.P.O.," "Yap-Yaps," "The Hydro," and "Perkins in Paris," as well as for the music of Mr. Karno's London pantomimes.

At the Derby County Court on Wednesday morning, before his Honour Judge Macpherson, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, proprietor of the Derby Grand Theatre, and others, brought an action against Mr. Joe Waldron, of The Waldrons, for breach of contract. Defendant did not appear, and, according to a statement put in by plaintiff, he entered into a contract with defendant on Aug. 23, 1911, to appear in the sketch the "Silly Burglar," at the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, on April 15, 1912, and at the Hippodrome, Nottingham, on April 22, 1912, at a salary of £25 per week.

Hearing from defendant's agent that the Waldrons were likely to go to Australia about the time of their engagement at Birmingham and Nottingham, plaintiff made inquiries on two occasions, but received no reply. The breach of contract was that no bill matter was provided a fortnight prior to the time of the engagements, and the engagements were not fulfilled. The claim was for £50 as liquidated damages. Judgment was given for the amount claimed, with costs.

Mr. Sid Cotterell will produce E. and H. Gordon Clifford's new dancing episode, "Tantalizing Terpsichore," at Brighton, on Monday next. Rehearsals, held under the personal supervision of the actor and authors, have shaped well, and, judging by the freshness of the idea—reminiscent of Olympian festivals, when the fascinating goddess danced the doldrums out of the hearts of the assembled deities—the modern "gods" should enjoy the novelty. Terpsichore herself will be played by Miss Violet Hope, a clever dramatic dancer and actress; Mr. Cotterell has the part of Timothy, a waiter; and Mr. Owen Stirling, who appeared with Miss Marie Dainton in "The Little Lieutenant," will play Ronald, a young law student.

Under a compulsory winding-up order made last October against the Palace Theatre of Varieties (Tonypandy), Ltd., Craven House, Kingsway, W.C., Mr. H. M. Winearls (Official Receiver) has issued his report to the creditors and shareholders. The accounts show liabilities £766, against assets £5, but a deficiency of £6,791 as regards shareholders. Mr. Moss Jay, who acted as managing-director, attributes the failure of the company to the coal strike, and also to the fact that the company was unable to dispose of its shares in order to provide working capital. The liquidation remains in the hands of the Official Receiver.

Reynolds and Donegan, the Dunedin troupe, and Mallia and Bart, cancelled Continental tour last week and returned to London on account of the serious illness of Mrs. James E. Donegan, mother of Nellie Donegan, Jimmy Dunedin, and Mrs. Mallia.

Alfred Lester commences a season at the Coliseum on Monday with his burlesque skit, "The Village Fire Brigade." A lot of the critics think this is the best skit in his repertoire. It is undoubtedly screamingly funny. For the Coliseum Mr. Lester will have the assistance of an old 1840 fire engine.

Mr. Harry Ford, the popular variety comedian, is getting the better of an attack of diphtheria, which has laid him up at his home at Barnes. His condition at one time was rather critical, and it will be some few weeks before he will be able to return to the boards. Both he and Mrs. Ford have been touched by the sympathy shown by their many friends, to whom they tender their grateful acknowledgments.

The annual dinner and dance of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association has been fixed to be held at the Criterion Restaurant, on Sunday, March 9. Further particulars will duly appear in these columns, but artistes are requested to write the date in their books.

By kind permission of Mrs. Ellis and Mr. Fred Karno, a special matinée performance is to be given at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Thursday, Feb. 6, in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Sick Fund. In addition to the appearance of Mr. Karno's company in the successful pantomime of "Mother Goose," a number of star artistes will give their services. Mr. Douglas Stuart and Mr. R. T. Baines are the joint hon. secretaries.

Mr. Albert Voyce has been appointed chairman and Mr. Edward H. Lucas vice-chairman of the Music Hall Benevolent Institution for the ensuing year.

We are glad to learn from Harry Houdini that his wife has now left the nursing home in London where she was most successfully operated upon by Dr. J. Forbes Ross. The "Handcuff King" has received such a number of kind letters of inquiry concerning the health of Mrs. Houdini—who, by the way, has now joined him at Bradford—that he is desirous of relieving the minds of his friends and of the ever-generous public by announcing, through our columns, the good news of Mrs. Houdini's recovery.

A new revue is imminent at the Empire This, however, will be quite English, a choice justified completely by the success of "Everybody's Doing It," which is nearing its anniversary and going as strong as ever. There is one thing that this clever production has done. It has presented Mr. Robert Hale, and it has also given him the requisite rein for his conspicuous gifts as a comedian. He is one of George Edwardes's young men; but until he came to the Empire there was not much talk about him. Now "Everybody's Doing It."

It was quite an exciting afternoon at the Palladium on Monday. Mr. Eugene Stratton was most enthusiastically received in some of his most famous songs, and there was a popular reception for Little Thomas, who was encouraged to make a speech, in which he informed the audience that he was seventy-four years of age, that he had sung "God Save the Queen" at a great Exhibition Fête in Hyde Park in 1851, and that if there should happen to be another great exhibition in 1951 he hoped to be there also, and to sing. The audience—who a few moments before had been revelling in his rendering of the comic song, "Sarah"—gave him hearty cheers.

Cunning, America's only actor gaol breaker and handcuff king, is to appear on this side for sixteen weeks only in an American play teeming with thrills. It is entitled "From Portland to Liberty," and is by Robert Provo. Cunning announces that he will escape from any prison or asylum, or from any form of restraint devised by police, asylum officials, or locksmiths. Love laughs at locksmiths, and so does Cunning.

Mr. Johnny Danvers, who is to join the Palladium Minstrels, tells the following amusing story to an interviewer:—"You know that the late Dan Leno was my uncle, although there is only a month's difference in age. Well, we were introduced to each other in a perambulator when two years old. We were travelling to a village entertainment one winter's night, but had no money on arrival. We were relying on the proceeds of this concert. No one wanted to let us apartments.

"We were, however, fortunate enough after a few hours' search to gain hospitality, and were shown straight to our bedroom. Being so tired, we fell asleep immediately. It must have been about 4 a.m. when I was awakened by the door opening, and I saw to my horror a man enter with a knife in his teeth. I lay there in deadly fear, too frightened to speak or awaken Dan. I simply watched and wondered what I had done. Relief soon came, however, as the man did not have evil designs on us. Instead, going straight to the end of the bed, he cut a huge slice of bacon from a large piece hanging from the rafters, and went downstairs and cooked it for our breakfasts!"

Fred W. Lauraine (of Hector and Lauraine) writes to say that he is destitute and at present is an inmate of Lambeth Workhouse, Princes-road, Kennington-road. "I should be glad of employment," he writes. "There are many things I can do, having been in the business since I was a boy, and having travelled this country, the Continent, America, and Canada. Trusting some of my brother and sister artistes will help me in my distress." In the heyday of his success Lauraine was a favourite at the Alhambra, the Folies-Bergère, Paris; the Winter Garden, Berlin; and Koster and Bial's, New York. He is a life member of the Masonic Order, Lodge 571, Dramatic, Glasgow, also one of the old Terriers' Association.

Master Ronald Tate, the ten-year-old son of "Harry" of that ilk, shows early promise of treading in his father's footsteps and giving a good account of himself in the world of athletics. During his holidays he has been spending a few days at Brighton, and with a school chum cycled there, doing the outward journey in fairly good time. On Jan. 23 they returned, leaving Blackrock at 8.40 a.m., and passing through Preston, Handcross, which was negotiated without dismounting, Crawley, Redhill, Croydon, &c., to Tooting, reaching home at 2.10 p.m., having covered the distance of 52 miles in the very good time of 5½ hours, an average of 9½ miles per hour which, considering the state of the roads and the hills on the route, is, for a youngster of his years a splendid example of pluck and fitness, and doubtless is, youth considered, a record. Master Ronald claims it was a non-stop run, and when asked about the halt for sandwiches and milk, replied that one of them wheeled the bicycles while the other took his refreshment, so that the bicycle did not stop—a retort quite worthy of Harry himself.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May, on behalf of the committee of the Guild, desires to remind all friends of the date of the Fancy and Evening Dress Ball to be held at the Trocadero on the night of Sunday, Feb. 2. She wishes to say that if those ladies and gentlemen who have bought tickets will kindly write in, the committee will be pleased to arrange for the members of their parties to sit at one table. Anyone passing through London that night may purchase tickets at the Trocadero.

Mrs. Herbert Odelly has given a handsome clock in a case for a prize, in addition to those already advertised; Mr. Frank Allen has sent a guinea donation towards the ball; Mrs. Albert Chevalier, £1 3s. donation; Mrs. Dillon, 5s. (per Mrs Coborn); Miss Gertie Gitana, 10s. 6d.; Mr. G. H. Elliott, 10s. donations (per Miss Irene Rose); Mr. Cyrus Bell, donation, 5s.; Miss Julia Reeve (collected), 3s.; Miss Nellie Archer (collected), 2s. 6d.; Miss Marie Goodwin (collection), 11s. 4d.; Miss Georgie Courtney (collection), 2s. 6d.; Miss Melnotte (collection), 2s. 6d.; Mr. Arthur Poland, donation, £1; Mrs. Ernest Collins, a useful box with contents; Mr. George Stotesbury, gent.'s top-coat (per Miss Lottie Albert); and Miss Ada Blaina, fourteen fancy baskets filled with handkerchiefs. A gent.'s suit has also been sent from Newport by an anonymous friend.

Music Hall Home.

At a committee meeting of the Music Hall Home held on Friday (17th), Mr. Harry Falls occupied the chair, supported by Messrs. Arthur Were, S. N. Salter, Dan Robans, Russell Brandow, Ben Woodger, and Jesse Sparrow (secretary). It was resolved that the committee meetings in future be held on the first and third Fridays in the month at 2.30 p.m. instead of 3.30 as hitherto.

The secretary acknowledges donations of one guinea from Little Tich and ten shillings from T. E. Dunville; also three suits of clothes, boots, shirts, and ties from Mr. Vuillcumier, of Gipsy Hill, and books from Colonel Phelps. The next committee meeting will be held on Friday, February 7, at 2.30 p.m.

The Terriers' Association.

The President and Vice-President desire to express their sincere thanks to Terrier Dan Robans for the excellent programme he arranged at the concert on Sunday last.

Applications for membership, second notice, Edgar Curtice and Tom E. Dean.

Billy Lytton, one of the most enthusiastic members of the Order, desires it to be known that he is the only Terrier of the name of Lytton.

Terriers desirous of joining the Terriers' party at the Ladies' Guild Fancy Dress Ball are requested to communicate with Terrier Arthur Were.

Owing to the V.A.F. meeting on Sunday next the meeting of the Order will not commence till 9 o'clock sharp.

Mr. Edward Foster, manager at the Alhambra, Glasgow, whom many London journalists remember at the Empire, Stratford, has received an appreciative letter from the directors of the Scottish Repertory Theatre, embodying the following extract from their minutes:—"It was unanimously decided to record in the minutes the directors' appreciation of the great assistance which Mr. Foster had rendered to our acting company during their visit to the Alhambra Theatre, and of the great personal interest which he had taken in the different productions." The experiment of including the repertory company in the variety programme at this theatre proved a decided success during their four weeks' engagement.

The funeral took place on Saturday, at the Carrington Church Cemetery, Nottingham, of Mrs. Sarah Ann Seward, wife of William Seward, at one time proprietor of the Alhambra Music Hall, St. Mary's Gate, Nottingham. The deceased lady will be better remembered by her stage name, Marie Kirkland, one of the leading toe dancers 20 years ago. It is understood that Mrs. Seward gave the well-known Carl Brenner his first engagement. Mr. Brenner was among those assembled at the graveside to pay his last respects to the deceased, who was 69 years of age.

The friends of Mrs. Charles Beecham and her lamented husband will be glad to know that she was safely delivered of a posthumous son on Thursday evening (16th). Mother and boy are doing extremely well. Mrs. Beecham is receiving much kindness from numerous friends.

Mr. James T. Caddell, manager of Collins's, Islington Green, was on Wednesday evening presented with an illuminated address on vellum and a cheque. The presentation took place in the saloon, and was made by Mr. Pat Doherty, who years ago won popularity as an Irish comedian and dancer. Speaking on behalf of the subscribers, Mr. Doherty said he had much pleasure in presenting Mr. Caddell with the testimonial as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his many good qualities. Mr. A. E. Golding, the treasurer of the Testimonial Fund, handed Mr. Caddell a cheque for £25, stating that there were several amounts still to come in.

Mr. Alf. Bishop also presented Mr. Caddell with an amber cigar tube, and congratulatory speeches were made by Mr. Holford, one of the proprietors of Collins's, who paid a high compliment to Mr. Caddell and Mr. Barney Owen, the secretary of the Fund, who has worked hard in getting up the testimonial. Mr. Caddell expressed his deep sense of obligation to his friends and the patrons of the hall, who had so generously contributed to the testimonial, which he should treasure all his life.

The directors of the Eastbourne Pier Company recommend that a sum of £500 be transferred to reserve, £400 to renewals suspense account, and that a dividend at the rate of £7 per cent. per annum be paid, free of income tax, which will absorb £2,800, leaving a balance of £445 18s. 7d. to be carried forward to next account. The extension and renewal of the landing stage, commenced at the date of the last annual meeting, has been completed and fully meets expectations as to its utility.

Mr. Philip Leslie, who was recently seen to such advantage as the young waster in the Stage Society's production of "The Waldies" at the Haymarket, has rejoined Miss Jean Harkness for a few weeks in the duologue, "The Key of the Situation," in which they appeared in the variety theatres some months back. Mr. Leslie has entirely recovered from the recent attack of laryngitis from which he suffered during the tour of "The Mousme."

Mr. George Unwin, who so successfully managed "The Miracle" at Covent Garden, has been the recipient of a most complimentary congratulatory letter from Messrs. Hyman and Rosenthal and many offers of engagements, which he has been regretfully compelled to refuse. Among other of his activities Mr. Unwin has written a revue-ballet sketch for a well-known operatic impresario, which will be a heavy production with full chorus, and will be presented at an important West-End variety house. He is also interested in Miss Jessie Millward's production, "The Grey of the Dawn" at the Chelsea Palace on Feb. 10, and has disposed of the American rights of two of his one-act plays, "The Way Out" and "Whether 'Tis Better?"

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS

Running out to Clapham Grand one evening this week to see Pauline, the writer was particularly struck by the items rendered by Mr. Martin Kamp, who appeared in the same programme. Mr. Kamp is a celebrated Dutch humorist, and this is his first engagement in this country. Possessing a thorough knowledge of the English language—and a remarkably keen appreciation of the tastes of the English audiences—Mr. Martin Kamp has found no difficulty whatsoever in impressing all those who have seen him with his ability to entertain in an original and highly successful manner. Mr. Julian Wylie, who is his agent, is to be congratulated upon his enterprise in bringing Mr. Kamp to England.

Mr. Wylie has several other acts appearing this week in London that are new to us. Among them is Jacques Grandpiere (that 'cello man), at the Hammersmith Palace, assisted by Gustave, the well-known pianist. Then at the Holborn Mr. Wylie has the Four Black Diamonds, Louis Brocades at Brixton, and Frank Leedham at the Chelsea Palace. Each act is doing excellently.

Richard Cass's Agency is now represented by the founder's old friend, H. Burrows Smith. "Dick" and Burrows between them can reflect on half a century's experience of the entertainment world. The one young, alert, debonair, scholar, athlete, and keen recogniser of incipient talent; the other rugged, more matured, and with a Bohemian strain which fortune and misfortune have failed to eradicate. Burrows Smith's success with Fred Maxwell's "Anarchy" must still be fresh in the memories of managers and managing-directors. With few exceptions laughed at by those in authority, he persevered against enormous odds, and succeeded without one word of encouragement, one act of assistance, or one smile of favour, except from T. S. Dickie, of the Royal Standard, Pimlico, Jesse Sparrow, and Tom Maltby.

Mr. Richard Cass has arranged with Mr. H. T. Brickwell for the appearance, on Monday next at the Canterbury, of the Two Jacks (Wayho and Collinson) in an episode by E. C. Matthews, entitled "The Son of his Father," in which will be introduced their famous knuckle fight as given before the members of the National Sporting Club. "Many years ago," said Jack Collinson recently to an old friend, "I told you I should never grow old." And he has kept his word, as those acquainted with the veteran, still sturdy, alert, and virile, will admit.

Messrs. Will Collins and Co. have negotiated an extension of the engagement of Conrad and Whidden at the Empire for a further period of ten weeks, commencing from Monday next.

Roya and Rejan, who have recently completed a lengthy tour, embracing Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, open with their dancing speciality act at the Empire, Newport, on Monday, arranged by their sole business-managers, Will Collins and Co.

S. W. Wyndham, who is at the Holborn Empire this week, is making a success which must be very gratifying to him, being "called" six times at each house, and then having to come before the "tabs." A comedian different from all others, Wyndham's original style is effectively employed in a ditty called "Don't forget your little dicky bird," which is a big laugh throughout, and is certainly one of the hits of the programme. Mr. Wyndham's agent is Mr. Geo. Barclay.

Mr. Harry Burns is responsible for the engagement of the Ragtime Six, who top the bill at the Holborn Empire this week, and it was through him that Mr. Alfred Butt completed negotiations for the services of Miss Willa Holt Wakefield, the American comedienne at the piano, who opened so successfully at the Palace on Monday.

Lloyd Morgan, the comedian, has just signed tours with the Controlling Co. till late in 1916 through his exclusive agent, Mr. Oliver. The same agency has booked Will Hay, a new character comedian, for over 120 weeks.

Messrs. Sydney M. Hyman, Ltd., 29, Leicester-square, are removing early next month to more convenient premises in St. Martin's Chambers, at the corner of Chandos-street and Trafalgar-square.

The Quaint Q's, A. G. Spry, Margaret Ogilvie, May B. Brilliant, and the Big Brass Six sail on Saturday by the Kildonan Castle to fulfil South African engagements with Sydney M. Hyman, Ltd.

Tom Jack, the Ice King, after a successful tour in the provinces, will open on Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Variety Theatre, Vienna. He returns to London in the first week in April. During his absence Mr. George Harrington is looking after his interests. Messrs. Arthur Day and Liddy are his agents.

Mr. Harry Burns is responsible for the engagement of the Ragtime Six, who top the bill at the Holborn Empire this week, and it was through him that Mr. Alfred Butt completed negotiations for the services of Miss Willa Holt Wakefield, the American comedienne at the piano, who opened so successfully at the Palace on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, also the Mojis, left by last Saturday's mail boat to play Africa's Amalgamated Tour, and this week Mr. Rufe Naylor will send Mr. Allan Shaw and Wood, Wells and Wilkins for the same circuit.

Jock MacPherson, the Scotch humorist, is making a big success at the Camberwell Empire this week, where the Three Shentons are doing splendidly, and both these acts are booked through Rufe Naylor's Agency.

The winding-up meeting of the Committee which was responsible for the arrangements for the Robin Tea at Wisbech for 1913 was held at the Town Hall on Monday evening. The Mayor (Mr. T. Blazeby), who presided, said that before the general business was commenced he had a very pleasing duty to perform, and that was to ask Mr. Bancroft, whose time he knew was limited, and who wanted to get back to his business, to accept, on behalf of the Robin Tea Committee, an enlarged flashlight photograph of the interior of his Hippodrome with an audience of over 700 of the poorer children of Wisbech, whom he so generously entertained to such a magnificent programme on the afternoon of Jan. 9. He further had to ask Mr. Bancroft to accept on behalf of Mrs. Bancroft (Miss Emmie Ames) a bouquet, and he regretted that Mrs. Bancroft could not be there.

Amid applause the Mayor then handed to Mr. Bancroft the photograph and the bouquet. The former was inscribed, "Presented to Mr. Harry Bancroft by the Robin Tea Committee, Wisbech, as a small acknowledgment of his kindness in entertaining 721 poor children at the Hippodrome, on the occasion of the Robin Tea, Jan. 9, 1913. Thomas Blazeby, Mayor." Mr. H. Bancroft, in reply, said that if the children only enjoyed the entertainment in the way he enjoyed giving it to them, they had a happy time.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Mr. Bert Feldman, the king of rag-time publishers, has started on his tour of witnessing the pantomime productions in the principal theatrical centres of the three kingdoms, and he is mightily delighted—as he has good reason to be—to find that in all the pantos of note the firm of Feldman and Co. looms large in the musical scoring. Nine-tenths of the songs used—and by that we mean "song hits"—bear the imprint of the Arthur-street house, and hence the heaving breast of Bert Feldman swells with unalloyed joy at the undisputed throne he occupies as monarch of "syncopation." A further fact has Mr. Feldman discovered in his journeyings, and that is, that never has there been a more successful season for pantomimes than the present one. Someone may ask the why and wherefore of this, and the answer is supplied in the sentence, "Because the public have been gripped by the rag-time music which is so liberally sprinkled over the productions, and the popularity of which has become nothing short of a craze in these kingdoms." Well, it is a health-giving craze, and the expert physician who has compiled the pharmacopœia is Mr. Bert Feldman.

Miss Clarice Mayne, who has proved such a popular artiste on the variety stage, is adding largely to her previous laurels by the triumphant success she scores in the part of principal boy in the pantomime of "Dick Whittington" at the Theatre Royal, Leeds. It is almost the truth to say that Miss Mayne's success and that of Mr. Laidler's pantomime have become the talk of Great Britain, and night after night the packed houses in the Royal have smashed all previous records to smithereens. Miss Mayne's rendition of "Alexander's rag-time band" creates a veritable riot; in "Who were you with last night?" the fair, talented artiste scores heavily; but perhaps the pièce de résistance fo her panto. repertoire is "Oh, you beautiful doll," which is truly a most artistic and finished production. In the same pantomime, Miss Olga du Barry makes an immense hit with the artistic Feldman ballad of the year, "Take me back to the garden of love," while "I want to be in Dixie" has also become a favourite with the habitués of the Royal. We have been informed that the bookings in advance amount to over £1,500, despite the panto having already had a run of four weeks. It is a concrete fact such as this which supplies the best answer to the pessimists who tried to delude themselves and others into the belief that rag-time music was a thing of the moment, that it would never do for pantomime, and other such absurd prophecies. The successful pantos have all been stuffed with real rag-time numbers, the public cannot get enough of them, and the inevitable result is that theatres are crowded, managers jubilant, artistes full of artistic pride and possessing swollen purses, the house treasuries replete to bursting point, and the warp of success shot all through the woof of speculation.

In the same city of Leeds, at the Grand, Mr. John Hart's beautiful panto teems with Feldman publications. The place of honour must be assigned to Miss Ella Retford, whose success is simply prodigious, and the manner in which her audience join in singing her outstanding hit, "I want to be in Dixie," is unprecedented in the annals of this historical house. Miss Retford has in active rehearsal, for immediate production, Feldman's "That mysterious rag," and in this number another huge success may, with every confidence, be anticipated for such an accomplished artiste as Miss Retford has proved herself to be.

Not only have the large provincial cities emulated London in falling under the spell of syncopation, but the smaller towns are now Rag-time and Feldman crazy. Miss Florrie Forde has been an immense success in her panto at Dewsbury, and here, as elsewhere, we find the house of Feldman supreme. All the principal songs used in the production are published by the Arthur-street firm, and two more of their numbers—"Who were you with last night?" and "Take me back to the garden of love"—have been introduced this week with instantaneous success.

In a recent communication to us Mr. Bert Feldman refers in the most eulogistic manner to the above. He states that he witnessed the production a few evenings ago, and he votes it, not only a colossal success, but a most artistic and refined production, worthy of any theatre in the country. Miss Florrie Forde is to be greatly congratulated on her first venture. In this production one of the great outstanding successes is Miss Gracie Moore, who delightfully portrays the part of Fairy Sylvania, who, in conjunction with Mr. Frank Sumner (who conducts and harmonises Feldman's beautiful ballad, "Take me back to the garden of love"), fairly captivates the huge audiences and deservedly "brings down the house."

That past master of the art of pantomime and the unearthing of "stars," Mr. Fred. J. Elliston, whose name on any playbill is sufficient to attract full houses, has again with him this season Miss Molly McCarthy, an artiste whose rapid rise in the profession, in the short space of the last two or three years, has perhaps been one of records in the business. Not only has Miss McCarthy become a great pantomime favourite, but a wonderful draw all over the country, and London now only awaits her conquest. This is tolerably well assured in the near future, for she has a book full of London dates at all the best halls. Miss McCarthy has exclusively featured Feldman's songs throughout her various engagements; and in pantomime this season her success with "I want to be in Dixie," is electrical, while her conception of "If you talk in your sleep don't mention my name" is worthy of an actress with a life-long experience in the art of phrasing a number. There cannot be the slightest doubt that in Miss Molly McCarthy the variety stage possesses a coming "star" of the brightest order, and that but a very short time will elapse until we have the pleasure of chronicling the fact that she occupies a high place in the theatrical firmament, from which she cannot be deposed.

Another Elliston find is Miss Nancy Benyon, who is playing principal boy in "Mother Goose" panto at Dewsbury, where, as already stated, packed houses are the rule. Miss Benyon is winning all hearts. She possesses the charm of good looks, and is gifted with a fine voice and stage presence; and in Feldman's songs, "Take me back to the garden of love," "I want to be in Dixie," and "Who were you with last night?" she is creating a furore nightly. We would say that Miss Nancy Benyon is certain to be well heard of in the not distant future, as a more promising artiste we have not listened to for a very long time.

At the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, the pantomime "Dick Whittington," is drawing large and appreciative houses. Miss Ethel Beech is a splendid principal boy, and has established herself in the favour of the public. Miss Beech is experiencing especial success with Messrs. Feldman's "Oh, you beautiful doll." Miss Kitty Curtis, as Roderick, makes the most of her opportunities, and rouses the house to enthusiasm by her spirited rendering of that popular chorus, "Who were you with last night?"

Deserving of every praise is the production being presented at the Ealing Hippodrome. The universal favourite, "Cinderella," is the subject of the pantomime, in which, as everywhere, Messrs. Feldman's songs predominate. Miss May Moore, as "Cinderella," is most charming, and her meritorious singing of "Take me back to the garden of love," is received with great applause.

The populace of Jersey are enjoying to the full the fine production, "Dick Whittington," at the Opera House. Miss Winnie Preece, in the title-rôle is achieving great success with Messrs. Feldman's "Who were you with last night?" while Miss Nora Melton sings the popular favourite, "Everybody's doing it," to uproarious applause.

The second edition of the Broadway New Cross pantomime, "Aladdin," continues to be as popular as ever. Here, as everywhere, Messrs. Feldman's songs hold sway. Miss Wynnie Mentone is possessed of wonderful vocal powers, and makes a great hit with "Take me back to the garden of love." The popular, "Oh, you beautiful doll," is sung and danced to by a clever combination, who are rewarded by tremendous applause.

Such is the high standard of the fare usually provided at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill Gate, that, as a result, great things are looked for. Expectations are more than realised by the production "Cinderella," which is proving the delight of patrons. Miss Nora Dwyer as Cinderella is gifted with fine, unusual talents, and sings "Take me back to the garden of love" in a charming manner, which carries away the audience. In a duet with the Prince, Miss Queenie Leighton, great success is achieved with "Oh, you beautiful doll" and "Gaby glide," to the latter of which she dances splendidly. Miss Queenie Leighton sings "Who were you with last night?" in a dashing manner, which wins loud applause.

At Market Harborough this week, "Dick Whittington" reigns supreme. A special feature of the production are Miss Marie Vesta's Ten Juveniles, who are achieving great success with a batch of Feldman's numbers, among which may be mentioned "Alexander's rag-time band," "Oh, you beautiful doll," "Fiddle-dee-dee," "In the garden of my heart," "Put a ring on my finger," and "Garden of dreams."

Miss Nellie Merton and George Rydon as the Page and Dandini, respectively, are taking treble encores nightly at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, with "I want to be in Dixie" and "Alexander's rag-time band." The duo are specially deserving of success, as they have consistently exploited these two masterpieces for some considerable ime.

A young and gifted artiste, whose rise to the front rank has been rapid, is Miss Eva Le Clare. A most successful provincial tour has just been terminated by this rising star, and she will shortly open at the Walham Green Empire with a budget of new Feldman numbers. It is a foregone conclusion that this combination of artiste and material will achieve success to a high degree.

After their auspicious opening on this side of the "herring pond," at the New Cross Empire, Smythe and Hartman are this week at the Grand, Birmingham, to use an Americanism, "going some" in an even greater degree. The new Irving Berlin masterpiece, "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabama," which is published by Messrs. Feldman and Co., proved an instantaneous success at the hands of this cute American duo, who will no doubt achieve the much-sought-after "fame and fortune" by its means.

Cardiff has been lightened this week as by a ray of summer sunshine by the cheery presence of Miss Jen Latona at the Empire, with her répertoire of bright and exhilarating Feldman songs. The effect of her opening number, "I want to be in Dixie," is electrical, and wakes up her audience, so to speak. This is followed by the contagious lilt, "Rum Tum Tiddle," which rouses her hearers to an unequalled pitch of enthusiasm. The clever and amusing light comedy number, "Blowed if the fellows can do without the girls," is then artistically interpreted by this "jewel of an artiste," which puts the finishing touches and leaves the public in a helpless condition, the good fare being too much for them.

The pioneers of rag-time, The Two Bobs, are this week at the London Pavilion exploiting in their inimitable style a new Feldman number entitled "Be my little baby bumble bee," which promises to hold its own with the best in the field of popularity.

"THE SILVER HAT."

At the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, the 20th inst., was produced a new illusion called "The Silver Hat." As a feature of Jean's new era magic this act bids fair to achieve a marked notoriety. The hat is exhibited as made of silver (or similar-looking metal), and is of the "tall" variety as to shape, with a glass top, through which the illusionist exhibits the lights, &c., about the stage to prove that the hat is empty. Having announced his intention of producing wonders out of this apparent nothingness, he places the hat upon an electrically lighted table, or stand, as if it were a receptacle, and proceeds at once to prove its magical power as a money-maker. Two lady assistants are at hand to supply or receive the astonishing paraphernalia of the show, and from one of these a glass jar is obtained, into which a few silver coins are dropped. The jar is then placed in the hat, and brought forth after a few moments nearly full of money. The capacity of this marvellous "topper" is apparently immeasurable.

Dozens of coloured gloves and handkerchiefs make their appearance, to say nothing of a couple of parcels of pink and yellow billiard balls, while all the time we are called upon to believe that a silkworm is busily spinning inside the hat and making kerchiefs without end. Stuff like this, however, is nothing to what follows. Bottles of stout are produced and poured out into their accompanying glasses; there are also eggs and sugar, table decorations of various sorts, flowers growing in pots, bowl after bowl of water containing goldfish, and a number of large timepieces.

As if this is not enough, a half dozen or so of large rubber balls are produced, these being thrown over the footlights among the bewildered audience. The illusionist then produces a small box, which is locked with a key after having placed inside it a handkerchief borrowed from a gentleman in the stalls. The box is then placed in the hat. Next a gold watch is borrowed and put into a tumbler, the illusionist's intention being evidently to drop the tumbler upon the box and mysteriously transfer the watch to a place beside the handkerchief. Just as the trick is about to be done, however, there comes a rather loud and insistent cry of "Chocolates!" from a part of the house, and the attention of everyone, the illusionist included, is drawn to the offender.

As the boy who is selling chocolates approaches nearer to the stage, however, it is seen that he has a box which is intended for the performer. The latter takes it, and, of course, it is the box which is supposed to be still in the hat waiting for the watch trick to be completed. When the box is unlocked the watch is found attached to the handkerchief inside. The spoof interruption is quite well done, and the audience thoroughly mystified. Finally, by way of sequel to its money-making propensity, the hat is called upon to produce some "brass," and from its transparent emptiness yard after yard of beaten metal, five or six inches wide, rolls itself out upon the stage. How many yards might come is a speculation settled by the fall of the curtain. The act is very smartly worked, and the dressing and appointments are brilliant.

FELDMAN'S LEEDS TRIUMPH

OF

ALEXANDER'S RAG-TIME BAND.

WHO WERE YOU WITH LAST NIGHT?

OH! YOU BEAUTIFUL DOLL.

Mr. Francis Laidler's Dick Whittington.

Sung by

MISS CLARICE MAYNE.

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THE TIVOLI.

The Tivoli programme this week is crammed with good things, but no turn in Mr. Joseph Wilson's scheme of amusement evokes more enthusiasm than Miss Marie Lloyd, who is just now at the top of her form. In the "Piccadilly Trot" there were many little touches of character; and the joy week spent by a Hackney bride who has been on her honeymoon in "Paris by the Seine" has a most infectious melody. But for a fine piece of comedy one must wait for "The Actor Man," whose devotion is only equalled by his impecuniosity. Marie realises completely the distinctly precious nature of the courtship, and this creation alone would establish her fame as the queen of variety comediennes.

Considerable interest and curiosity were aroused by the announcement of a novel production by Mr. Bransby Williams, who gives in a short half-hour the pith and marrow of that Continental form of entertainment—the revue. The strains of "Everybody's Doing It" suggest the text of Bransby's opening remarks before a backcloth, on which is pictured the dome of St. Paul's propped up by two crutches. In consonance with the plan of the French revue a dummy footman and housemaid—introduced as "domes of silence" who never applaud—take the place of *compère* and *commère*, and the one-man reviewer commences his work with political skits and impersonations of Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill, the latter carrying a small Noah's Ark. He also introduces an ancient gag—a Rip Van Winkle, whose age is not known, and who can never die. The literary celebrity "taken off" is Mr. Hall Caine, who refers to the statues of the other great playwright—alleged to have written "Hamlet"—in Leicester-square and Drury-lane: "they may be all marble, but I am Hall Caine." Coming to the actors, we are introduced to Sir Herbert Tree, just back from America, Mr. George Graves, who flirts with the dummy housemaid, and Mr. G. P. Huntley. A brilliantly farcical idea is the impersonation of Drake by Mr. George Formby, fra' Wigan, who relies on an old friendship with "Lizzie." This counterfeit of the Lancashire comedian singing "Hearts of Oak," with bronchial interruptions, must be recognised as a *tour de force* of mimicry. Of course, Mr. Bransby Williams gives us Sir George Alexander—considered by many to be his best impersonation. Especially is this the case in one of the popular lessee's love scenes, given on Monday by the actor-mimic with rare fidelity. The success of the one-man revue, which teems with good lines and funny business, was never in doubt, and call after call emphasised Mr. Bransby Williams's triumph. Mr. Charles Osborne is responsible for the script, and Mr. J. S. Baker has written the music.

The bill is blessed with a couple of sketches in strong contrast to each other. The first, by H. Gale, is entitled

"THE WRONG HOUSE."

Paul Henrick ..... Mr. Yorke Stephens
Professor Price ..... Mr. Frank H. McKee
John Gant ..... Mr. Nixon Hold
Phyllis Merriton ..... Miss Ruby Miller

Tabloid comedy is the title given to "The Wrong House," an agreeable and well-written little piece. Mr. Yorke Stephens, one of the best of our light comedians, appears in the rôle of Paul Henrick, an artist who has "dined." He comes to the wrong house, and not being able to fit his latch-key in the door jumps the area, and, reaching the ground floor balcony, forces the catch of the French windows and enters. He immediately catches sight of a charming lady asleep in an armchair, and kisses her after sketching a pretty arm and mouth. On awaking, the fair sleeper, who is Miss Phyllis Merriton, mistakes the intruder for a professor, who is expected to arrive with her friend, Mr. John Gant. The professor does arrive during her temporary absence, and, taking Henrick to be a burglar, is by way of making a considerable fuss. He is immediately seized, however, and pushed roughly on to a settee, where he promptly faints. Phyllis, on her return, presents a revolver at Henrick, and, hearing the voice of the expected Mr. Gant in the hall, calls for him to fetch a constable. Taking away her revolver Henrick makes a clean breast of his escapade, and throws himself upon her mercy. She speedily relents, and as the professor is unable to recognise Henrick in any other capacity than that of a personal friend, the way is cleared for the artist to call on the morrow. Mr. Yorke Stephens and Miss Ruby Miller have some really good dialogue, and both handle the situations with the aplomb of clever and experienced comedians. Miss Miller, too, wears a very pretty gown. The other parts are in the safe keeping of Frank H. McKee, who shows decided ability as Professor Price, and Mr. Nixon Hold.

The other sketch has been successful at the theatres. It is by Gertrude and Jack Landa, and is called

"RED 'RIA."

'Ria ..... Miss Edyth Goodall
Mrs. Perkins ..... Miss Esther Phillips
Countess Tolhurst .... Miss Gladys Anderson
Major Fitzaylwin .... Mr. Patrick S. Murray

Disraeli wrote of the upper and lower strata of society as "the two nations," and gave an earlier generation a most interesting as well as an agreeable novel. The two collaborators have not done much more than create a character of the lower orders; but the little piece holds one by its humanity. Untamed, savage, defiant, Red 'Ria certainly is, but there is rare chivalry in her nature. The Perkinses, the humble and decidedly unclean East-Enders, who have brought her up, have won her heart and soul, even though Perkins is work-shy, and aggressively brutal when in his cups. The Countess Tolhurst, who has taken up philanthropic work among East-End girls, calls at the tenement occupied by the Perkins family, and from the attitude of Red 'Ria towards that well-intentioned and charitable lady, we anticipate a breeze, and certainly get it. 'Ria indulges in outspoken contempt for the toffs; she tells the Countess, too, that she belongs to a rotten lot, and cites the lady's divorce case as confirmation of her statement. My lady is very patient, but her every advance is treated with scorn, and her offer to procure 'Ria a situation in the country refused with contempt. There is in 'Ria's mind a strong reason for this refusal; for is it not her strong right arm that protects poor Mrs. Perkins, the mother of six, from the potential bashings of Mr. P., when "well-oiled"? 'Ria tells us her history. She has no father, and her mother, a well-known ballet dancer, has died in giving her birth. She thinks her father is an officer, and when Major Fitzaylwin arrives on the scene her curiosity is aroused by his recognition of her resemblance to her unfortunate mother. Audiences might rush to the conclusion that the Major is 'Ria's father, but the text of the piece does not support this conclusion; and when 'Ria has heaped contumely upon the embarrassed officer, she orders him and the Countess to get out, and falling into a chair gives way to a fit of hysterical weeping.

Fortunately, the services of Miss Edyth Goodall, who has played Red 'Ria at the theatres, were available to make the character live once again by a display of genuine power. The outburst against the ways of the swells, who, under the pretence of charity, go prying—so 'Ria says—into the lives of poor East-Enders, is tellingly given; and the untutored girl's constant outbursts of indignation win sympathy and applause. Miss Goodall has already made a name for herself by her acting in "Hindle Wakes," and she should certainly go far. She is well supported by Miss Gladys Anderson as the Countess; Mr. Patrick S. Murray, who plays the difficult part of the Major well; and by Miss Esther Phillips.

The programme is opened most agreeably by Miss Nellie Norway, a pretty girl, who plays the handbells in a fashion that to a musical ear is quite acceptable. Miss Norway has not yet taken to rag-time, but chooses the melodies of "I hear you calling" and "The rosary," which she renders with much expression. Mr. Gus Elen, a real favourite at this house, has a capital gardening song, which touches very humorously on the Cockney notions of the names of flowers. As a number it has quite the Elen complexion, and should do him excellent service. As his chief song, he still retains "Nature's made a big mistake." Charles Whittle relies on a tuneful chorus song; Mr. Sam Stern's Italian and Dutch character impressions are as good as ever; and energy, skill, and grace are displayed by Ninon-Nina, acrobatic dancers of Continental reputation.

The Joculars, who used to be known as the Quaint 'Uns, have a pretty opening number, and the lighting effect adopted is decidedly novel. Their final item, which may be termed "the musical meal," is not uproariously humorous, but it has more claims to consideration than the feeble clowning introduced into the skit of the Tube. This should be replaced at once by something worthier of the abilities of a clever crowd. Other turns announced on the bill are Bert Errol, George Formby, Lea Manti, and the Three Lumars. At the Tivoli it is always a pleasure to meet Mr. James Howell in front. He is the doyen of acting-managers.

"THE HEART OF A CHILD."

One-Act Sketch, Produced by Mrs. Walter Simmons' company, for the First Time, at the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Reading, on Monday last.

Sir Francis Morven, M.D. ....Mr. Paul Lovett
Little Phil ..... Master Vincent Reville
Jem Garrett ..... Mr. Edward Sidney
Smith .....Miss Kitty Delaney

This one-act sketch is a story of great human interest. It is written by Mr. John G. Brandon, and as presented by the talented combination cannot fail to attract considerable attention in variety circles. The scene is a doctor's consulting room, and Sir Frances Morven, the specialist, is very anxious to secure a dog to aid him in an important scientific experiment. His first visitor is Jem Garret, and an element of clever comedy is introduced before this bullet-headed villain divulges the information that his little boy, Phil, and his dog, are waiting downstairs. Being afraid of the dog, the villain is prepared to sell it immediately for £5; but as the dog is Phil's friend and protector, the physician decides to negotiate with the boy direct. The ill-clad lad brings in his canine pet, and relates a pitiful story to the doctor, who tempts him to sell the dog. An interesting duel takes place between the love of the child and the spirit of science in the doctor. The lad will not part with the dog for any money; but he is prepared to make a big self-sacrifice and allow himself to be operated upon. "It will hurt horribly," declares the doctor; but the youngster unflinchingly bares his arm and stands ready for the knife. This forms an impressive scene, and at the crucial moment the doctor drops the instrument, and declares that the boy's love for his pet must come before science. The villainous looking parent is called into the room, and the doctor successfully negotiates for the purchase of the boy for £50—"the father's pawn ticket to Hades."

Mr. Paul Lovett, who has had considerable experience with Miss Horniman at the Repertoire Theatre, Manchester, makes an admirable doctor; a simple and natural rendering of Phil is given by Master Vincent Reville; and the rôle of the father is capitally played by Mr. Edward Sydney.

"THE CALL OF THE BLOOD."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Re the article in last week's "Wednesday Era," headed "The Call of the Blood," I should esteem it a favour if you would correct it, as it might mislead. I have left Stewart and Macdonald's several years, and leave "The Mormon and His Wives" company next week at Gateshead. I then go to town to rehearse Neil Kenyon's part in "Looking for Trouble" (Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's company), having been specially engaged by Laurence Cowen for Angus Macpherson, after seeing my show in "The Mormon and His Wives."—Faithfully yours,

MACINTOSH CLYDE.

Metropole, Glasgow.

BENEFICENT TERRIERS.

BANQUET AT THE BOULOGNE.

Hospitality has ever been a distinguishing feature of the Terriers, and the fact that they have become a Beneficent Order has evidently increased that agreeable quality in a marked degree, for on Sunday last, within a fortnight of their annual dinner, President Ben Obo and Vice-President Syd Walker entertained their brother members to a banquet at the Boulogne Hotel. Mr. Ben Obo again occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. Syd Walker, Mr. Jim Obo, Mr. Arthur Gallimore, and Mr. Albert Voyce. Others present were:—Messrs. W. Day, H. M. Darsie, Martin Henderson, Dan Robans, Bert Marsden, Fred Day, Frank Melvin, Jack Barker, Yettmah, Reginald Prince, Joe Redfern, Harry Falls, Kasrac, Harry Bent, T. C. Callaghan, C. Cornish, Fred Hughes, T. E. Cliffe, F. W. Millis, Walter Norman, Sid Baker, Will Cotterell, Tom Packer, Alf. Cawthorn, and Arthur Were (secretary).

A HEALTHY SOCIETY.

The toasts were few, the first being that of "The Beneficent Order of Terriers," proposed by the Chairman.

After expressing his pleasure at meeting his guests, Mr. Obo said the Order was in a very healthy condition, and they hoped to make it even healthier in future. People in the profession were asking more and more about the Terriers' Order, and numbers were joining for the simple reason that they were working on a business basis that was good not only for the performer, but for the profession. The secretary was gathering in funds as quickly as he could, and, considering the short time they had been reorganised, their finance was in a very satisfactory state. Members were individually in a healthy condition, because their sick pay had been practically nil. They had between two and three hundred members, and they went on week after week with just one or two ill here and there. Thus their members were sound in body, while the act of reorganisation proved that they were sound in mind as well. (Hear, hear.) He urged them not to be satisfied with their present success, but so to act that in future every member of their profession would always turn their eyes with admiration on the Beneficent Order of Terriers. (Cheers.)

CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE.

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. Arthur Were, who said:

I suppose I ought to consider myself fortunate in being here at all to-night, after the many threats of assassination, consequent upon the production of the quartet act. However, the Order must have a secretary, and you might get a worse one, so it is a case of the survival of the fittest. I must say that I greatly appreciate the idea of these banquets. I should like to see all the members of the Grand Council take it in turn to give us a dinner every Sunday. It would be a far more agreeable way to spend the evening than doing rag-time on the organ, or taking minutes, and there would be the possibility of your secretary developing into a "Sandow," and being a credit to the Order instead of the skeleton at the feast. (Laughter.) Personally, I must thank Terriers Ben Obo and Syd Walker for their generous hospitality, and can assure them that it will be my best endeavour to make their year of office a very successful one. They have made a brilliant start; there is already a substantial balance at the bank; and Terriers generally are enthusiastically supporting the Order. Altogether, I look forward to the future with every confidence, and whilst we have Terriers like Ben Obo and Syd Walker at the head of affairs, we are assured of the prosperity of the Beneficent Order of Terriers.

"OUR HOSTS."

Mr. Albert Voyce, proposing the toast of "Our Hosts," said he spoke with a knowledge of the actual work done in connection with the reorganisation, and did not think any active member had done more for the Beneficent Order of Terriers than their worthy president, who had worked day in and day out with the one object in view, knowing with so many of them that the sooner it transpired the better it would be for the Terriers. He felt assured the future held many golden moments for their Order, which would win increasing respect and admiration if they progressed along the same path. It would bring them to such a goal as was never anticipated in the history of professional organisation, inasmuch as their Order appealed, not only to the greater artist, but to the best artists. He spoke not alone from the point of view of talent, but from that of the sense of duty, the moral standpoint—that was, all that was meant to be expressed in the phrase, "a man." Their Order, as it existed, presented one solid phalanx, the whole imbued with the great desire to benefit their fellow members—one of the greatest and best feelings that any man in the world could have. One of the real things in life was a genuine friendship, which meant the readiness to give assistance, when distress came upon their comrade, and to give it with respect. (Cheers.) It needed no words of his to commend their president and vice-president to them; they all knew they had the interests of the Association at heart. If they followed them under all circumstances and in all places they would see a great future for the Order. He reminded them that out of the committee of ninety in the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution seventy were Terriers, and there was, he maintained, no organisation open to artistes for the well-being of the profession in which Terriers could not enter and take a leading part, and there was nothing that was attainable that they could not secure if they stuck together and were loyal to their officers under all conditions. (Cheers.)

Mr. Syd Walker acknowledged the toast on behalf of Mr. Ben Obo and himself. They felt amply recompensed for any work they may have done in connection with that little feast, by the manner in which the toast had been received. If those present were happy, then Ben and he were the happiest men in the room. It was very nice to know that Terriers were in such a prosperous condition. Their new birth had been successful in removing a lot of obstacles, and at their meetings they could now speak without restriction. (Hear, hear.) He read a number of telegrams regretting inability to be present from absent members, including Terriers Jack Hurst, Willie Benn, Lester Gardner, De Brean, Tom Maxwell, Bobbie Burns, Bert Morland, Bruce Green, Charlie Clark, Allan Rand, Walter Barrett, and a combined wire from Glasgow.

That experienced pianist, Mr. Harry Sutch, opened the concert which followed with a tuneful selection of music. The programme included a return visit of the "Thick- and Thin-Un Quartet," who gave, with additional verses, their topical song, "Oh, what a happy place is Sammy's!" Mr. Martin Henderson won a well-deserved encore with his playing of Gounod's "Ave Maria" on the concertina, and similar honours were given to Mr. Albert Voyce, who revived his favourite ballad, "Forgive and forget."

Contributions were also made to the entertainment by Mr. Bert Marsden, Mr. Fred Day, Mr. Arthur Were, Mr. Fank Melvin, Mr. Reginald Prince, and Mr. Jack Barker.

It was announced that the first annual dinner of the Beneficent Order of Terriers was fixed for April 6 at Frascati's, and that Terriers and friends, ladies and gentlemen, were invited. Attention was also called to the Fancy Dress Ball of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, due on Feb. 2, and it was agreed that all efforts should be made for Terriers to be well represented on that occasion. Votes of thanks to the chair, to the accompanist, and to Mr. Dan Robans, the musical-director, brought the proceedings to a close.

EUGENE STRATTON—MINSTREL.

For this week only the ranks of the Palladium Minstrels include Eugene Stratton. The famous coon does not, however, appear in company with his colleagues. In a scene all to himself he sings three songs, each of which is received with the utmost enthusiasm. Possessing a beautiful freshness for most of the younger members of the audience, and bringing back happy memories to many an "old 'un," "The Idler," "I may be crazy," and "The Lily of Laguna," are numbers that give graceful 'Gene full opportunity to display the gentle, leisurely humour that has secured for him his enviable reputation. The rest of the minstrel show has been considerably brightened, and is now, in every way, a most acceptable entertainment.

Monday morning's papers in New York recorded that while returning from Albany to New York Mlle. Gaby Deslys was robbed of jewels to the value of £15,000, including some magnificent pearls. Mlle. Deslys, who confirmed the report of the robbery, has told the reporters that the baggage-car attached to her train had been broken open and the contents of a trunk looted.

Miss Billie Butt, the clever young comedienne and dancer, returned to England from South Africa by last week's mail boat, after a tour extending no less than five months on the Africa's Amalgamated Circuit. She was originally engaged for eight weeks, but she achieved such a big success that her contract was extended as stated. Miss Butt undoubtedly proved one of the cleverest comediennes who has visited South Africa for some considerable time. She should have a great future on the variety stage.

BRAIN-FILCHING IN AMERICA.

The following account of a happening at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, has an important bearing on our articles on "brain filching," and is taken from "Variety," our smart and widely-read contemporary in the States:—

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 9.

"The consequences of a 'copy act' were made plain here Monday in several ways. At the matinée in the Orpheum, Nixon, a magician, who was to have opened with 'The Fantom Pictures' announced from the stage he would be unable to give a performance owing to interference by Clive, another illusionist, who has been known as the presenter of 'The Spirit Paintings' over here.

"Clive was in the audience. He stood up, informed the house who he was, and denounced Nixon in no uncertain terms. Clive also said that with the permission of the management he would appear that evening in the original act. He did so, after modifying his contract with Wilmer and Vincent for the Orpheum for this week through reducing the terms from $500 to $300. Nixon had contracted to appear the week at $250, just one-half the salary Clive has been obtaining for his act. The two numbers are similar in construction and work, Nixon having had the idea of 'The Fantom Pictures' suggested to him by the Selbit act that Clive is working. Nixon is even reported to have written an employee of the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, asking and offering to pay for certain measurements of the Clive apparatus.

"The rather unusual proceedings in a theatre do not speak any too well for Wilmer and Vincent, as managers, who, in an attempt to save themselves a little money in salary, deliberately and knowingly encouraged a 'copy,' besides cancelling a valid contract they had made with the original act two days before the latter was to open.

"Nixon started with his 'copy' under the name of 'The Spirit Paintings.' Clive protested in 'Variety' at the time against the same title being used immediately after the Nixon act had been closed at the Bijou (small time), Brooklyn. Nixon thereupon substituted 'The Fantom Pictures' as the name of his turn, and has been booked in some of the small big time houses.

"His agent in New York represented that the Nixon turn was fully as good an act as Clive's, and bore down upon the fact that Nixon could be had at one-half the money the original asked. It is said that last week Walter Vincent sent a representative to Lynn, Mass., to report upon the Nixon number, although at that time he had already contracted through James E. Plunkett (Clive's agent) to play the Clive illusion at Harrisburg. The story is that Vincent decided if the report from Lynn was satisfactory he would cancel Clive upon the grounds of misrepresenting in having the exclusive rights to the illusion, and replace him with the 'copy' at half the price.

"Last Saturday, while at the Grand Opera House, Pittsburgh, Clive received a wire, signed Wilmer and Vincent, notifying him he was cancelled for Harrisburg. On the advice of his New York attorney, August Dreyer, Mr. Clive went to Harrisburg, and reported at the theatre. He then noticed the billing of the Nixon turn about the town, and went into the theatre at the matinée, having previously notified Mr. Vincent that unless permitted to play as per contract he would expose the illusion in Harrisburg and discount the value of the 'copy.'

"'The Spirit Paintings' was presented over here two seasons ago (on the Orpheum Circuit) by P. T. Selbit. Mr. Clive last summer, while in London, arranged with Mr. Selbit and Maskelyne and Devant for the American rights, returning with the illusion, appearing on Hammerstein's Roof for a few weeks. The attention given by New York to the act suggested to several 'brother' magicians that it was worth while attempting. While the idea of the illusion is not original with any of the present operators of it, the principle upon which "The Spirit Paintings," as presented by Clive, is worked is new, and through this, as well as through being the creator of a successful revival, Messrs. Selbit and Clive stand in the same position morally in the ethics of vaudeville, as though they had produced an entirely original act."

PALACE NOVELTIES.

"THE HONEYMOON EXPRESS."

An ingenious combination of scenery and cinematography is effected in the American eccentricity, "The Honeymoon Express," which made its first trip at the Palace on Monday. It depicts the joyous journey of a newly married couple to the seaside, and one is able to see the "honeymoon express" speeding on its way with real figures in a real train, while the cinematograph is used to show the moving landscape on either side. Again, at the seaside, real bathers are seen diving into the surf, the breakers being furnished by the film. So closely, however, are the two welded together that the picture is perfect, and Mr. Frank D. Thomas is heartily to be congratulated on the effect obtained. An agreeable feature of the skit is the re-introduction of the popular Palace Girls, who sing and dance with all their customary charm, and are joined by a number of young men, who are very expert steppers. Mr. Herman Finck has written some melodious music, a duet for the bride and bridegroom, "Oh! you sea," being particularly pretty.

AN AMERICAN COMEDIENNE.

The title of "America's Foremost Entertainer" is enjoyed by Miss Willa Holt Wakefield, who makes her first appearance in England, and she certainly goes far towards justifying the description. Seated at the piano she speaks, rather than sings, a number of short songs, getting through over half-a-dozen in the space of ten minutes. There are rather too many references to underwear in Miss Wakefield's songs, but her manner of rendering them is artistic. She has remarkable gifts of expression, and at one moment is telling archly of a lady with "the clocking on the stocking"; at another singing to "Baby mine," with "kissing effects"; then describing the flirtation of laundry linen over a garden well; and later, melting to grief as the old negress crooning to her dead coon, "Stay in your own backyard." Miss Wakefield was heartily recalled and presented with a bouquet, saying, with evident feeling, "You don't know how happy you've made me; I didn't know whether you were going to like me."

MUSIC AND COMEDY.

Another new item in the Palace bill is that of the Viennese Trio, who utilise the piano, violin, and 'cello to promote mirth and merriment. They perform a series of trios, and the violinist secures an exquisite tone in his rendering of "Killarney." The humour of the turn rests chiefly with the 'cello, a quaint performer whose eccentricities include burlesques of the violinist's little cadenzas, and an utter disregard of the latter's silent reproaches.

At a Glasgow Empire matinée last week a new Scotch musical comedy sketch, entitled "Her Leddyship's Laird," was presented by the Three Ronalds for the first time, and the artistes had to respond to three recalls, and finally come before the curtain. The title, "Three Ronalds," conceals the identity of two well-known Glasgow vocalists and their daughter. The sketch is the work of R. F. Morrison, a Glasgow journalist.

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LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

One of the best all-round programmes that Mr. Clarence Sounes has presented at this the most popular place of entertainment in Kingston has been delighting numerous audiences at the twice-nightly performances this week. One of the most sensational of the items on the programme are the performances of Miss Aurora with a tame lion, "D'Artagnan, the Beau Brummel of the canine world," a horse, and a dog, which takes place in an iron cage that covers nearly the whole of the stage. Interest centres in the lion, which is a splendid animal of its species, and the dog, both of whom are evidently fast friends. The dog pretends to maul the lion without losing its life, and sits down to dinner with it at the same table, and even licks up the remains of its food from the same dish—surely a most remarkable instance of animal comradeship. And at the end of the performance the lion shows its friendship for the horse by springing on its back and riding round the limited arena several times.

Miss Haydee's miniature theatre provides a real novelty in marionette performances. These take place on a miniature stage, with boxes filled with moving puppets on each side, and the artistes come on and perform with remarkable realism, and the climax is reached when a puppet appears as a well-known Chinese illusionist, and produces birds, rabbits, and other animals from an empty cloth. The performance was loudly and deservedly applauded. Sharp's company of tromboneers, five in number, including himself, show a most remarkable ability in playing the trombone, singly and in unison, and their efforts are so loudly applauded that they have to respond with several additional airs.

Great amusement is caused by Sisi and Fifi, in their burlesque act, "Fighting against Water," which introduces a number of mechanical novelties, each of which squirts water on one of the performers until he is saturated almost to the skin. The Comedy Meisters, captained by Mr. Turner Parr, sing a number of popular airs most tunefully, each of the five members of the company possessing a very fine voice, and the singing is interspersed with low comedy work that causes no end of fun. The programme also includes Flora Macdonald, the "Scotch lassie," in song and dance; Williams and Wells, wooden shoe dancers; Lily Burnand, burlesque actress; and the Four Elles, a company of Viennese society dancers, who go through some remarkable terpsichorean feats most gracefully performed.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

The Two Hollanders are the leading attraction of a programme of sustained interest that is being presented at the Finsbury Park Empire during the current week. This pair of Dutch performers have succeeded in evolving an act that is novel, original, and entirely cosmopolitan in character. The turn, which is entitled "From Peasant to Artiste," opens with a film representing the two actors conducting their performance in humbler circumstances—in the public street. A London theatrical manager thus discovers them, and, recognising their talent, immediately proposes to engage them—a proposal that is accepted by Louisette but refused by Chrettienne, with the result that the manager passes on. However, Louisette, determined not to be outdone, pursues him, followed in turn by her unwilling spouse.

We see the pursued and pursuers flee to Amsterdam, and thence to London, finally arriving at the Finsbury Park Empire itself, whereupon the film suddenly concludes, and the pair emerge from a door at the back of the auditorium, and, making their way through the audience, gain the stage. The turn proper consists of the lady singing and dancing after the fashions of Italy, France, Spain, and England, her husband taking the chair of the chef d'orchestre and impersonating famous musical directors of the nations represented. The Two Hollanders finally show that they can even exploit rag-time in the approved style, and they conclude with a familiar exposition of "Everybody's doing it now." Speaking of rag-time, there is another turn in the programme giving rag-time in excelsis this week, the act in question being done by two coloured comedians, Charles Hart and Rosamond Johnson. All their rags are original and written and composed by themselves, and we cannot refrain from remarking that this act gains unquestionably by the admirable restraint they exercise in their renderings. "The Siberian Dip," "If you'll be my Eve I'll build an Eden for you," and "Honey, come love me some more," are the most taking of their numbers, and all these were most vigorously applauded when the writer was present.

Vera Wootton is as chic and winsome a comedienne as may be found anywhere, pretty and dainty, with a graceful way of piano-playing; and the Wille Brothers, sensational equilibrists. The Bioscope concludes.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

A bill full of strong attractions is provided by Mr. William Payne at the above house this week, and on Monday evening when we visited the theatre we found it well filled with an audience who gave evidence of the keen enjoyment they derived from the various items. Ernie Leno (a son of the great Dan, and who bears a striking resemblance to his father) gives ample evidence of the fact that he is literally following in his father's footsteps, his dancing act being warmly applauded. Reid and Power, two energetic comedy artistes, provide a diverting ten minutes in a little sketch, "The Chambermaid," into which they introduce a smart medley on the names of well-known plays. Louie Tracy, the dapper dandy boy, is quite at her best in two smart numbers, "Jolly good luck" and "It's the soldier all the time," which were enthusiastically received.

George Carney, supported by a good company, is here in "The Fool of the Force," in which he is seen as Officer Mudd, his drolleries keeping the house in roars of laughter throughout. Nellie Wallace, adequately described as the "essence of eccentricity," sings in her own inimitable style two numbers, "I was the early birdie" and "The cheers for the red, white, and blue," her invitation to those in front to "sing with me" being quickly and vociferously responded to. That clever imitator of animal sounds, Carl Lynn, meets with his usual enthusiastic reception; and Romanoff received full recognition for his powers as a violinist. The Three Van Dammes in their acrobatic scena imbue a clever performance with a good deal of smart comedy, which makes the turn all the more acceptable, and a good series of pictures is shown on the Bioscope.

"A Fox Hunt," described as a dancing and vocal scena, is presented by a company under the direction of Mr. Joe Peterman. Let it be at once said that its result is disappointing. The only thing of interest in the performance is the dancing of Mlle. Norovia. M. Max Martini may be, as described on the programme, "the famous whirlwind dancer," but on the night of our visit we were compelled to take this for granted, as he did not dance. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Charles E. Howell, performs some tuneful selections.

CHELSEA PALACE.

The management of this popular house certainly have the knack of engaging talent that appeals to their large clientèle, and with Harry Tate and the rollicking "Motoring" as the "star turn," is it any wonder that the theatre was filled with a representative audience on the night of our visit? Indeed, Chelsea's unique hall is nightly patronised by a number of the aristocracy and smart set, especially at the second house.

What can we say of Harry Tate's "Motoring" without reiterating previous praise? The brilliant comedian was at his best, and worked with energy that was rewarded by the unstinted applause. Harry also received a special call at the end of his turn.

Ernie Lotinga and his supporters are veritable fun-raisers in their "Bluebottles" comedy drama. Again and again the house roared. Adolph Luck and Mamie Thorpe ably assisted Ernie in serious vein. Frank Leedham did excellently with a novel turn as a pierrot at the piano. Bob and Jennie Leonard are attractive in their funny little act. Miss Leonard was capital as a suffragette, Bob lustily singing "Keep your eye on the force." Miss Aimée Roberts's Lancashire fun and Cockney witticisms as a dialect impressionist were very favourable, and deserved recognition. The novelty jugglery was capital of Sados, and his little comedy(ian) proved popular with the house.

Mr. Herbert Winter, in a capital vein, regaled us with some humorous South African stories. Molly Wells was chic and most versatile in her three songs, accompanied at a piano by the author and composer, Frank Mayban. "Molly," "If I married you and you married me," "What would you do without us boys?" are really pretty and tuneful songs, and, needless to say, Miss Wells was warmly applauded. Jessie Lee, comedienne and dancer, favourably impressed us, and a smart skating act, full of novelty, came from McClellan and Carson. Will Norrie, the Lancashire tenor, is possessed of a fine, rich, tenor voice, and sang very agreeably. Pictures completed an all-round programme.

Both Mr. Norman Berlin and Mr. George Andrews by their courtesy add much to the pleasure of a visit to the Chelsea Palace.

SURREY THEATRE.

A first-class programme has been submitted by the management here, and crowded houses have been the rule. A prominent favourite is Miss May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, who convulses the audience with her good-humoured chaff with the members of the orchestra. The two numbers rendered by her are received with unmistakable appreciation. Harry Bedford is also as popular as ever. He has two good songs dealing with the rag-time craze. Miss Dora Lyric scored an immediate success, her chorus songs being quickly taken by the "boys," who join in with vigour.

Drawee, Frisco and Hambo, with their comedy juggling act, give a fine performance, the comedy assistant being very amusing. The Aerial Smiths submit their daring and smartly performed trapeze act. Arthur Croxon gives two numbers, both being excellent. The first, "What a time we had," was received with much applause. The Eight Lancashire Lads, in a song and dancing act, are as good as of yore, their smart foot work calling for unstinted praise. Wolfe Land, a light comedian and character vocalist, acquits himself with distinction.

Henri de Vries' company present their well-known sketch, "Submarine F7," with its realistic scene depicting the interior of a submarine. The company portray their respective characters with marked ability. The Bioscope screens some excellent films, and the orchestra, under Mr. F. Hills, rendered the musical numbers exceptionally well. Mr. J. R. Badcoe has his time fully occupied attending to the wants of his numerous patrons.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

This is a rag-time week at the Holborn Empire. Not only is there the Rag-time Six in the bill, but the New Macs, the Four Black Diamonds, and the Zylbastrian Band engage in the amusing American atrocity, and even Morny Cash has something to say of how the stock on the paternal acres "moo" and "baa" in rag-time.

One of the most enjoyable turns we have seen for a long time is the Wedgwood Classics. The delightful setting and the dresses of this act are ancient Roman, and most effective, while the abilities of the trio of vocalists are really remarkable. Their individual numbers were all rendered in a way that left nothing to be desired; but the treat of the whole performance was the trio from Gounod's "Faust," by Miss Vivian Carter, Mr. Ray Quentin, and Mr. Percy Triggs. Not only was it sung exceptionally well, but the dramatic incidence was scrupulously observed, and the result was truly delightful. This clever party should certainly create a vogue, for they are unique in their art, and their clever staging and lighting effects add considerably to the charm of their performance. If a word of criticism may be levelled at them, it may be said, with no exaggerated puritanism, that it is undesirable to introduce into variety scenas such emblems of Christianity as were used for the magnificent rendering of the "Ave Maria." The nun's costume may have been essential, but the cross and the stained-glass window were distinctly not.

Mr. Norman V. Norman, with Miss Beatrice Wilson, staged a strong dramatic sketch, entitled "The Open Question." The piece deals with a woman who has been deserted, and who discovers the father of her child only the night before he is—unknowingly, of course—to marry his own daughter. As a last remedy she kills him; but the Chief of Police suspects her, and, by the French system of reconstructing the crime, makes her confess. As the Chief of Police Mr. Norman V. Norman showed undoubted evidence of his talent as an actor, and Miss Wilson's pathos and strong limning of the character of the desperate woman marked her as a temperamental actress of more than ordinary ability. Taken as a whole, the sketch is a clever piece of work, and admirably acted.

Of the rest of the programme, the Rag-time Six gave an entirely satisfying show, and staged their songs and dances so well and so quaintly as to win applause from the most carping critic. T. E. Dunville, as ever, had the house in his grip from the moment he left the wings, and frequently had to stop to let the laughter die away. Morny Cash was as welcome as ever, and might have sung quite a few more songs without trying the patience of his audience too far. The Zylbastrian Band, the Four Black Diamonds, the New Macs, and Ando's Happy Japs—the latter, by the way, are wonderful exponents of the juggler's art—help to make up a bill which it is really everybody's duty to see.

Mr. Edmund Tearle's condition, we regret to learn, continues to give cause for grave fear to his family and friends. Mr. Tearle recently played Othello at the Middlesex.

Miss Dorothy Edwards is lying seriously ill at Westcliff-on-Sea, where she was appearing last week with Mr. George Carney's Wedgwood Classics. She was taken ill on the Friday, and was unable to give her dances, in which she is associated with Mr. Ernest Belcher. We trust however, that she will be at work again in two or three weeks if she continues to make satisfactory progress.

Two music-hall "brothers" were standing at the side watching the performance of "The Twelve Pound Look." "Say, Bill," said one to the other; "what bloomin' fine patter—I wonder who wrote it?" Referring to the weekly bill, the other replied, "It's a bloke named Barrie." "Right O!" said the other; "then he writes our next act."

DEATH OF M. AUGUSTE VAN BIENE.

ACTOR-MUSICIAN.

We regret to report the tragically sudden death of M. Auguste Van Biene, the well-known 'cellist and actor-musician, at the Brighton Hippodrome on Thursday night during the second house. Just after he had given his performance M. Van Biene sat back in his chair as usual, and it was found that he had passed away. Death was apparently due to heart failure. The audience were not made aware of the sad occurrence until the finish of the performance, when the news caused a painful sensation. The body of the dead musician was removed to the mortuary on an ambulance.

The deceased actor was born in Holland on May 16, 1851, and he learnt to play the 'cello when quite a child. He studied under Servais, the great Belgian virtuoso, and at the age of 15 occupied a position in the Opera House, in Rotterdam. He sought a wider sphere in which to satisfy his ambition, when he came to London in 1867, without any knowledge of the language, and with worldly goods that chiefly consisted of his beloved 'cello. He went through great hardships, having to play in the streets to earn his scanty board and lodging. The tale has often been told how Sir Michael Costa stopped and listened to him one day, the result being an engagement in the Covent Garden orchestra. In the autumn of 1881 he became musical-director for the late Alexander Henderson, at the Comedy Theatre, where he conducted "The Mascotte," "The Grand Mogul," "Boccaccio," "Rip Van Winkle," "Falka," and "Erminie." He took over the country rights of some of the Gaiety burlesques, including "Faust Up to Date."

In 1891 Van Biene made arrangements for a tour of "Rip Van Winkle," originally produced at the Comedy in 1882. It was in this highly successful musical piece that he first became an actor, playing the part of Rip—at the suggestion of his friends. He was a success, and used to quote with a very natural pride a notice of his

Photo by H. Baker.

THE LATE MR. AUGUSTE VAN BIENE.

performance in "The Manchester Guardian," which ran as follows:—"We have certainly gained a fine actor, but we have lost a good musician." This suggested the idea of procuring a play in which the art of the actor and the art of the virtuoso could be combined. Hence "The Broken Melody," which was written for Van Biene by James A. Tanner, who collaborated with Herbert Keene. For this play, produced at the Prince of Wales's in 1892, the deceased must have paid something like £10,000 in royalties. It was an "obstinate" success.

Of late years the famous 'cellist fulfilled many engagements at the halls, appearing in a number of sketches, and it was as "The Master Musician" that the writer last heard him play the 'cello, at the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund dinner, at the latter end of last year. He frequently played for charities, and visited many of the London hospitals, where his music gave great delight to the patients. A kindly, genial man, he was much attached to the country of his adoption. He was fulfilling engagements in London a fortnight ago, and on Saturday week performed at the London Press Club, after having already made two appearances at music halls. He did this, however, against the advice of his doctor.

THE ALHAMBRA.

There is an air of prosperity about the Alhambra now that cannot be mistaken. It is not a house for early-comers, but after 9 o'clock the stalls begin to fill, and within half-an-hour the house is packed. The success—as deserved as it is gratifying—of "Kill That Fly" has completely justified the new policy of the twain of entertainment directors, MM. Charlot and Leveaux; and the additions and revisions that have been made increase the brightness, the charm, and the fun of the show. In Act 2 the phrase, "Ascot Ups and Downs," has a metaphorical as well as a physical aspect, the latter being discovered in an ingeniously painted view of a switchback course, designed by W. Heath Robinson, and painted by A. E. Craven. The fun of the new starting-gate specially appeals to racing men, but the humour of Mr. McArdle as Joe, of Mr. Hugh E. Wright as the tipster, and of Mr. Goulding as the Johnny is for everybody. Heads of racing stables, well-known patrons of the course, bookmakers, racing-card girls contribute to a lively scene, and Miss Muriel Hudson leads in a jockey dance in which the Alhambra corps are at their best. While writing of the ballet one must not forget to praise the dance duo of Miss Mossetti and Miss De Lande in the sixteenth tableau, "The Eastern Way." It is the perfection of charm and grace, and should not be missed. The Cabaret scene orings in its train a wealth of funny incident and rag-time, the latter being illustrated by Mr. Louis Hirsch, the composer, at the piano. This fine soloist chooses the "Gaby glide," a composition that has an immense vogue, and his success is undeniable. Miss Mason joins Mr. Julian Alfred in the twenty-first tableau in a New York dance, and more rag-time is given by Miss Muriel Hudson, a great favourite. Miss Mamie Buck is an established success as an actress mimic, her imitations of Miss Gertie Millar and Miss Connie Ediss being quite deceiving as well as funny. Signor Christy Solari, the new tenor, has an excellent voice, and brings down the house in "La Donna e Mobile," the famous aria from "Rigoletto." Brilliant and beautiful, topically funny, magnificently dressed, musically inspiriting, and finely acted and danced, it is no wonder that the revue is being acclaimed by crowded houses. It may be seen again and again, and no recommendation would be greater.

THE OLD-TIME MUSIC HALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Mr. Billie Bint's letter will, I imagine, appeal to many of the half-past and semi-present generations. Those that are growing older constitute an ever-growing body, whose malcontents are growing apace. Some of them long for something less crowded, less hurried, and less ambitious than the lightning programme of the present day variety palace. The music hall proper has been nigh obliterated, and its music is being snubbed out of existence. For some time rag-time (which is rhythm run riot) has reigned supreme. Yet its greatest "hits," full of life and promise, die young and unlamented. The American importation may only for a time have ousted the home-made article—the good old chorus song. Of the latter, numbers of popular "numbers" will show signs of vitality when the rag-time of a season (the average span of life) is forgotten. Then the succeeded will succeed their successors. Alfred Lee, George Hunt, and George Le Brunn have left many a die-hard song to commemorate their memory, and that of their interpreters. So, when they leave us (may the day be far distant), the same will be said of Leslie Stuart, Bennett Scott, Wal Pink, Fred Bowyer, and other makers of British songs for British artistes for the British public.

Our music halls were made by our comic vocalists, not by Continental or American speciality turns. But the comic singer of to-day has, with few exceptions, little opportunity for making a name. In place of the three or four songs allotted him in the past, his turn is, as often as not, confined to one ditty, with (almost as often as not) a hint to "hurry up" or "cut it short." To stimulate him to do his best he is frequently "put on" (not to say put out) under conditions that make him appear at his worst. Even the sketch business is being snatched from the hands of those that invented it by stars of the greater stage, tempted by greater salaries. In an old-time music hall the old-time turns would not constitute the least welcome feature. Your correspondent names "Jimmy Fawn, George Chirgwin, Charley Coborn." To such an ideal trio may I add, in the same familiar style, the names of Tommy Barrett, Jack Rowley, and Harry Liston, "nuts" that are still worth cracking. Then Prince Waltz-Time might have another innings (are you listening, King Rag-Time?). The chairman, too, who has long taken a back seat, would once again come to the front and occupy his own.

The other night I had a delightful experience. I was at an old-time music hall where I was made to feel quite young. There, for I was seated at the chairman's table, the "old boy's" genial readiness to "take one with me" revived very dear recollections. The sound of his hammer fell like music upon mine ear. Alas! it was only the early postman's rat-tat (rapped in rag-time).—Yours, &c.,

W. E. IMESON.

103, St. Julian's Farm-road,
West Norwood, Jan. 22.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—One of the most attractive items in your much esteemed journal of last week was Billie Bint's highly interesting letter re "The Old-Time Music Hall." Bravo! Billie Bint. Bravo! I have not the honour nor the pleasure of the gentleman's personal acquaintance, but I certainly should feel proud and delighted to shake hands with such a man for his far-seeing and sensible observations concerning the old music hall, with which I most thoroughly agree. The prospect of an attempt at revival of this time-honoured institution is delightful. How, in the old days, I used to enjoy those splendid exhilarating entertainments. But where to-day can be found a "Great Vance," a George Leybourne, or an Arthur Lloyd? Alas! that they should all be gone, never to return. How cosily one used to sit and hear the rap of the chairman's hammer, and hear him calling out "Ladies and gentlemen, the lion comique will have the honour of appearing next." How I hunger to hear the old words again.

As Mr. Bint justly remarks, there are many people to whom the present style of music hall entertainment does not appeal, and I hail with delight the idea of attempting to revive the old-time music hall. To carry out this scheme I will willingly subscribe the sum of £250 if nine others will give a like amount within the next six months. Trusting my remarks may find a space in your esteemed journal.—Yours truly,

ALFRED TUESKIE.

Father of Margaret (Bess Moore, in "The Bad Girl of the Family").

96, Junction-road, Tufnell Park, N., Jan. 20.

Sir,—Being an old-timer myself, I may possibly be open to the charge of being somewhat prejudiced in the matter, but I was very much interested on reading Mr. Billie Bint's letter in your issue of Saturday last, and I shall be glad if you will kindly allow me to say a few words in favour of his suggestion that a new music hall run somewhat on the old-time principle, would prove acceptable and a paying concern to the promoters, not only to the old-timers of the public, but also to the younger members of the present rising generation, who may have heard their elders expatiate upon the enjoyment they have derived from the old-time music hall entertainment.

My own personal experience of music halls dates back over fifty years, from the early sixties, and my memory recalls the time when I visited the old Canterbury, with its picture gallery; Evans's music hall and supper rooms, Covent Garden, under Paddy Green, when the boy choir sang so beautifully the old standard glees and madrigals, and Skinner, the waiter, had a wonderful way of his own of reckoning up the charges for your supper and refreshments, much to his own benefit.

The Doctor Johnson Music Hall, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, formerly known as the City Concert Hall. Dr. Johnson at one time resided at No. 8 in this court, and presumably the sign was named after him. At this hall I recollect the chairman, with his hammer, was one Joe Matz, a bass singer of repute at that time, and the audience sat at tables enjoying the music and a social glass, and the concert opened with an operatic, vocal, and instrumental selection by a stock company of cultured and capable artistes, ladies and gentlemen, who, in the course of the evening, contributed various favourite ballads and standard glees.

I also recall memories of the old Philharmonic, at Islington, with Mr. George Allen, the bass, chairman; Constance Loseby, soprano; Lizzie Harris, contralto; George Jedder, tenor; Fred French, the Dashing Dunbar (Howell), Arthur Lloyd, Tom Maclagan, &c.

The Sam Collins's Music Hall (real name Vagg), formerly known as the Lansdowne Hall, Islington Green—Harry Sydney, the topical, &c.

Weston's Music Hall, High Holborn, with Pat Corri, chairman; Louie Sherrington, serio; the most versatile of all negro delineators, the Great E. W. Mackney, &c.

The old Raglan, with Donald Kerridge, chairman, and tenor vocalist; Billy Randall, &c.

The old Eagle Concert Room, City-road, over the tavern, with Harriet Coveney, &c., where concerts were held from 12 till 2 a.m., after the theatre was over.

The old Strand Music Hall (afterwards called the old or first Gaiety Theatre), where the great Vance made his first appearances.

Deacon's, at Clerkenwell, with George Sadler, the baritone, as chairman.

The old Mogul, at Drury-lane (now the New Middlesex), with genial Harry Fox, the chairman, he of the bulbous nasal organ, the jolly waggoner, with a small voice, Billy Critchfield, Mrs. Phillips, Jimmy Fawn, &c.

Many of the above-mentioned, and many others whose names I could recall, alas! have done their last "turn," but their names and songs will be within the recollection of a great number of the old-time frequenters of the halls I have mentioned.

Coming to the present time, besides the three popular artistes mentioned by Mr. Bint—Charles Coborn, Chirgwin, and Jimmy Fawn—there doubtless must be still a goodly number of old-timers who are clever and still capable, practically as good as ever, and with really more power to amuse than many of the younger members, and given the engagement of the calibre I have mentioned, I feel confident that their performances with the old-time music hall environment would be appreciated by the general public, sufficiently to make it a profitable concern for both professionals and promoters. The chairman, by all means, a necessary adjunct, what I may term a sociable link between the audience and performer. The rap-tap of the hammer, and the announcement of the name of the artiste, often draws forth a round of applause from the audience, which pleases them to show their appreciation, as it were, in advance, and gives added zest to the performer's efforts when he makes his appearance.

There are doubtless still remaining some capable old-timers, fit and able to undertake, and carry out successfully, with urbanity and tact, the necessary duties which devolve upon the chairman.—I am, yours faithfully,

PROF. W. E. BALLANTINE

(For some time deputy-chairman for the late Fred Rouse (Taylor), at the old Oxford Music Hall).

773, Fulham-road, S.W.

HACKNEY AND SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRES.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The eleventh annual general meeting of the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empire Palaces, Ltd., was held Thursday (Jan. 23), at the Stoll Offices, Coliseum Buildings, W.C., Mr. Oswald Stoll presiding. Among those present were Dr. T. E. Fisher, Messrs. H. J. Thomas, V. E. Brukewich, A. Crawford, and J. Thompson.

The secretary (Mr. W. S. Gordon Michie) having read the notice and the report of the auditors,

The chairman said: I rise to move the adoption of the report and accounts, which I assume may be taken as read. As the report perhaps errs on the side of brevity, a few further remarks from me will not be out of place.

The report for the year 1911 explained that this company had acquired half-interest in the Wood Green Empire, after a mortgage. That theatre, at the end of December, had been open for about three months, just long enough to establish itself. At the present time it is doing good business, but until it has been open for six months this company can receive no share of its profits.

On the other hand, the cost of acquiring the interest is naturally in the accounts, and this explains both our scarcity of cash and our abundance of investments. Of course, seeing that our profits stand at £11,895 for 1912, as against £6,569 for 1911, a difference which should allow of reversion to our old dividend, some surprises may be felt at a rate of dividend no higher than 5 per cent. But this is accounted for by the scarcity of cash, to which I have referred. Of course, the remedy was to sell enough investments to pay off our loans, &c., and provide free funds. And this is exactly what we have now done, but we could not do it in time to alter the complexion of the accounts before you.

It should not be forgotten, however, that the circumstances which deprive you of a higher dividend this year conserve the strength of our position at a time when even at 5 per cent. you are doing better than any other shareholders in London suburban companies. (Hear, hear.)

When you hear how other suburban theatres have suffered during the past two years, as you do hear when Mr. Henry Tozer trumpets loudly the entire absence of dividend from the theatres controlled by him, you must admit that this company, in comparison, has done remarkably well. (Hear, hear.)

The past year, in my belief, would have been an exceptionally profitable one but for a reason which the morning papers have explained fully on more than one occasion.

They told how the London transport strike of 1912 drove all the trade of the Thames into the provinces; how the provinces, having not only their own trade but London's also, have experienced a boom almost unprecedented; and that they have done so simply because this disturbance of trade took place at a time when ten different European nations were preparing for war, and practically the whole of industrial Europe was to be set working at fever heat on war orders.

It takes months to readjust trade driven out of its customary channels, but so far as we are concerned there are unmistakable signs that the readjustment has commenced, and that the London worker is coming into his own again.

In normal times this company, with its increased resources, is now capable of earning greater profits than ever before; and I firmly believe that it will at least again equal the best it has yet done. (Hear, hear.)

In conclusion, turning from earnings to capital, may I suggest that if you will visit the Wood Green Empire, and will there bear in mind that your half-interest in that property has been obtained without any increase in the capital of this company, you will realise that the value of that capital, whatever it was before, must be substantially greater now. (Applause.)

I beg formally to move that the balance-sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending Dec. 31, 1912, be adopted according to the report, which reads as follows:—

The directors of the Hackney and Shepherd's Bush Empire Palaces (Limited), in their report for the year ended Dec. 31, 1912, state that the net profit for the year, including the balance brought forward, after allowing for debenture interest, depreciation, and other charges against revenue, amounted to £8,497 1s. 10d., from which had to be deducted the dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. upon the preference shares and the interim dividend on the ordinary shares, leaving the balance of £4,547 1s. 10d. The directors recommend a dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, amounting to £1,177 1s. 8d., and the balance of £3,370 0s. 2d. carried forward, subject to tax on the final dividend. The directors are glad to report that there was considerable improvement on the company's business towards the end of last year, and that the present year has started well, and that the improvements seem likely to continue.

The Chairman (continuing): As to the notice against investments, that contingency is very remote, but should it eventuate we should get very good first debentures for the money.

The report was then seconded by Dr. Benjamin W. Broad, and adopted.

Dr. Broad was re-elected a director, on the motion of Mr. Walter Battle, seconded by Mr. Brukewich; and Messrs. Gillespie Brothers and Co. were reappointed auditors to the company.

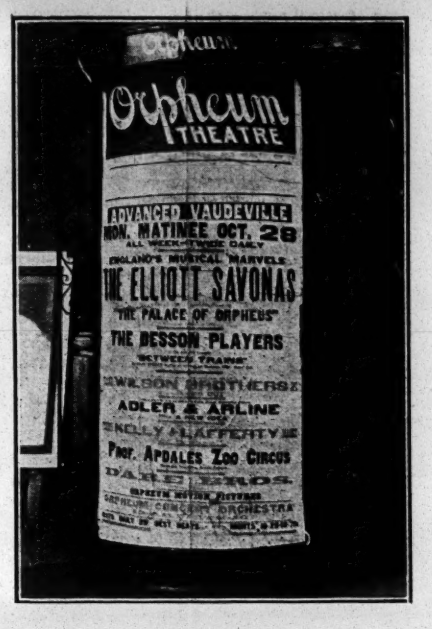
The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman.

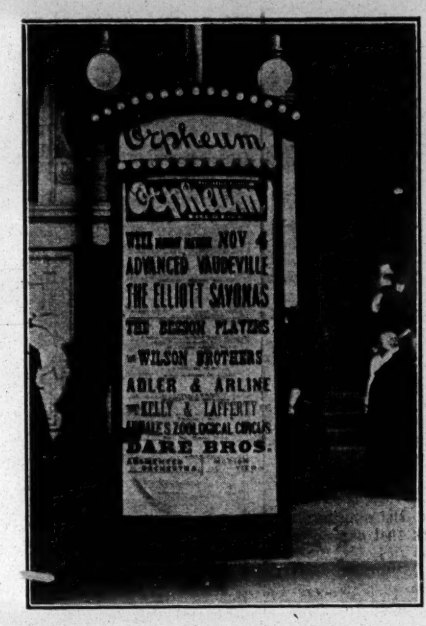
THE MUSICAL ELLIOTT SAVONAS

Returned to England after a Successful Tour of the Orpheum Circuit, America.

Open MONDAY, JAN. 27, EMPIRE, SHEFFIELD. New Cross and Shepherd's Bush to follow.

Just a few snapshots showing the positions we have occupied on the bills we have been on in our travels out West:—



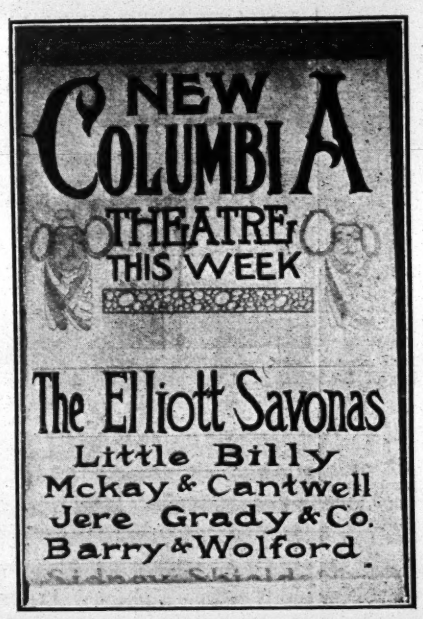


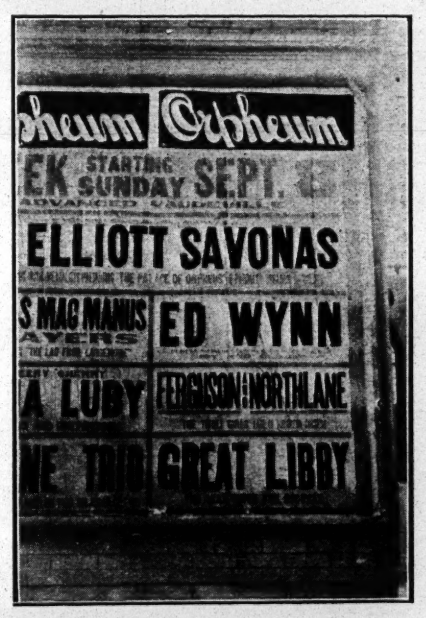
Portland, Oregon, June 12, 1912.—**ORPHEUM.**

Eight artistes appear—Elliott Savonas Headline Orpheum Poster—Musicians are on first Tour of America—Great Praise is won by novel Vaudeville number—Family all Experts

In reviewing the act of the Elliott Savonas, the "Spokesman-Review" of Spokane, Wash, said:—

"Gorgeously gowned in luxurious court costumes, embellished with wonderful light effects, the offering of the Elliott Savonas is easily the most pretentious musical act seen in the local playhouse in months. The company consists of four men and four women, playing grand opera selections for the most part and using 50 different instruments, changing from one to the other with marvellous speed in their 'William Tell' overture. 'Cavalleria Rusticana' was heard in novel form on a series of copper gongs and the grand ensemble, an ocarina sextet, using one of the rarest instruments on the stage, proved a fitting finale to a remarkable act."

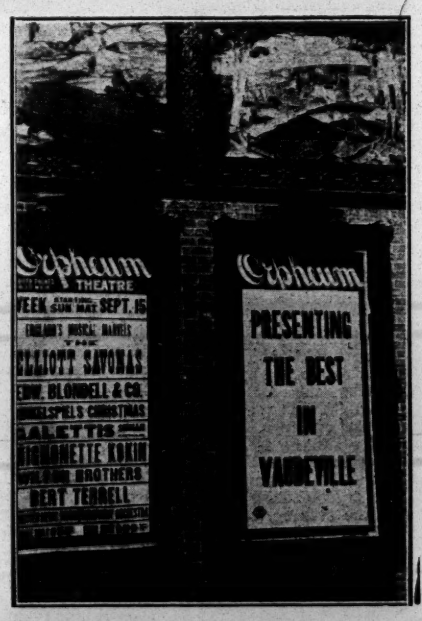


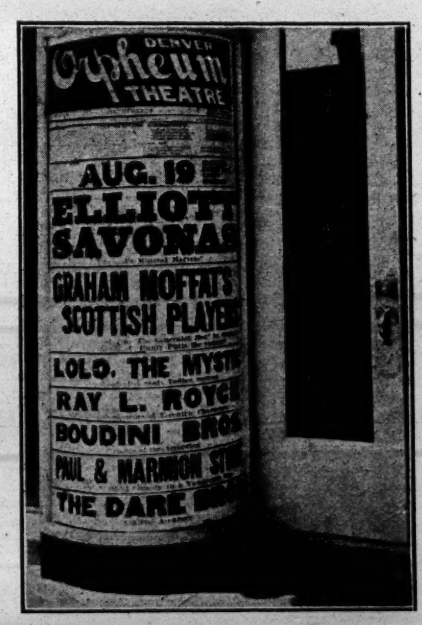


"The Indianapolis News," Tuesday, October 8, 1912.

B. F. Keith's—Vaudeville.

There's dazzle and dash in the doings at B. F. Keith's this week. Electrically speaking, the bill is brilliant and there is a merry sparkle in almost every act. It is not easy to recall when the stage electrician, and his fellow-flarer in the gallery, the spotlight man, were such diligent youths. They were kept busy yesterday working the floods and the dimmers or shooting out volumes of red and violet rays. Which, theatrically interpreted, means that the bill is spectacular and pretentious. Nearly every act has special scenery, the most elaborate of which is that of the Elliott Savonas, the biggest musical feature ever presented at the local Keith house. The Elliott Savonas, eight English musicians, produce on a multiplicity of instruments of novel design, selections from the popular operas and the classics. They rush from reeds to trumpet organs and from saxaphones to xylophones with almost marathon speed and pour forth music in such bewildering volume that the audience sits spellbound. The scenic effects, both in draperies and lighting, harmonize with the brillant tone of the musical performance. Unquestionably the Elliott Savonas present one of the most attractive instrumental acts ever offered in vaudeville.





"The San Francisco Call," Monday, July 1, 1912.

Program a Corker.

As a matter of fact, and looked at aside from the elements of the anniversary being celebrated, the program was a corker.

It must cost a great deal of money, but that is none of my business. The Elliott Savonas, "a family of eight instrumentalists," hit the high mark in musical productions. Scenically the offering was beautiful. It was sensational in its musical aspects. Singularly enough, this company of artistes played the "William Tell" overture and Rosner with his orchestra supported the medley of instruments which were employed by the players on the stage. The coincidence was interesting, for the Rossini overture was the work which first introduced the Hungarian orchestra that Rosner brought to the Orpheum from Budapest. It was the "William Tell" overture that was played by the Budapest musicians on the night of June 30, 1887, when the Orpheum began to be.

Beginning with an octet of saxophones the musicians yesterday spread themselves to copper plate music, striking out, with musical and percussive effect, the melody on mental discs that had tones like silver bells. Others of the company played embroidering runs on xylophones, which for once I found musical; still others climbed to electric lighted consols and turned on deep organ tones, and others, at the climax, blared with brass while lightning flashed and thunder roared off stage. Then there reappeared through the harmonious din a melodist with a soprano saxophone who intoned the idyllic pastoral melody of Rossini's deathless overture. It was very effective, unusual music.

This, too, was very like it was 25 years ago, when Rosner's brother with electrical apparatus added warlike sounds to the music of his fellows on the stage. It seemed to me that I saw Rosner take a firmer seat in his saddle, urging the players on the stage and the players in the pit to a double effort in tone, and that, instinctively, as with authority, he controlled the rhythm and the dynamics, and was indeed the soloist, as well as the centre of the avalanche of tone, which brought the audience to the brink of cheers. Any way, Rosner wiped his head after the number was over with more frankness and result than ever he could have done June 30, 1887.

All Communications to MADAM M. ELLIOTT, c/o "The Era."

AN AMERICAN ARTISTE ON ENGLISH CONDITIONS.

From a recent copy of "The Player," the organ of the White Rats Actors' Union in America, we take the following, written, it is said, by an American vaudeville performer with a vaudeville act which has more than made good in the States. The artiste in question has recently come over to England and seems to have found variety conditions here not at all to his taste.

"Well, things have gone nicely over here for us, and we consider ourselves lucky in view of the terrible conditions which exist. We have booked a number of weeks at a fair salary, but we are alive to the fact that it is an awful battle to get a decent salary in this country, no matter how good you make.

"We have been in London a number of weeks and have been studying conditions carefully, and we think that we know what we are talking about when it comes to explaining the vaudeville conditions here as they pertain to American acts.

"It is the evident intention of the agents in London to flood the country with American acts and then make the acts either work for little or nothing or swim back home. A certain agent made the remark not long ago that he intended going to the States for the express purpose of inducing an 'army' of American acts to come over to London on 'spec.' Another agent is advertising in American theatrical papers for acts to write to him concerning European time.

AMERICAN ACTS SUPERIOR.

"No matter how big your act goes over, you can count on laying off two full weeks after opening unless you want to work for almost nothing.

"The agents over here also have a correct list of the salaries paid every act in America, and they expect these American acts to start over here for about one-half their regular salary. English acts work for six or eight pounds ($30 or $40) for singles and doubles, and a lot of big acts, with from eight to twenty people, get only 20 or 30 pounds ($100 or $150). These English agents certainly despise an American act and do not attempt to conceal the fact, although at the same time they want American acts for the reason that they are, for the most part, superior to English acts.

"Under no circumstances should an American act come over here on 'spec.' The English contract is just as tricky as any, and clauses are often inserted after an artiste has signed. Contracts are usually held up about two weeks before they are 'confirmed,' and the artiste is helpless, being unable to move one way or the other.

NO "EASY" MONEY OVER HERE.

"Living over here is just as expensive as in the States, if you care to live as well. No act should sign a contract making any one agent his exclusive representative. Such a thing is suicide. These agents are all in an agents' protective order, and all compare notes regarding an act's salary and offers which have been made it. It certainly is a mistake for an American act to think that they can get work at once if they make good. You have to struggle twice as hard over here to get what you want as you do in the States. This country deals mostly in pennies, and they think a long time before they give up a pound ($5). There is no easy money to be gotten here.

"I am not writing this letter through malice, because, as I have said, we have been among the lucky ones, mainly for the reason that the agents saw at a glance that we were by no means broke, and, moreover, had a few brains. I take it as my duty to my order of White Rats to write the existing conditions to my brothers and sisters in order that they may know conditions and then use their own judgment.

ONLY HEADLINERS WANTED.

"Any act that is not a real headliner in America cannot hope to gain much by coming to this country unless they happen to have a decided novelty, such as ours happens to be.

"Every act from America must be submitted to the Lord Chamberlain in type-written form and passed upon before it can be presented here.

"Most of the theatres, we have found, have three or four dressing-rooms for the accommodation of eight or ten acts.

"We have met several American acts lately who were trying to raise enough money to pay their passage back home—and some of them have been good acts."

The foregoing letter was sent the W. R. A. U. to be read at one of the meetings of the order in New York City and for publication in "The Player" for the purposes which have been outlined in it.

"THE CROOK."

This sketch, produced at Collins's on Monday last, is worthy of more than passing notice. It is a clever little drama, which has a good plot and a telling curtain. When the stage opens we find Gerald Ellersby, the "Crook," discussing with his valet a carefully laid plan for securing the formula of an explosive far more deadly than any hitherto known at present, in the possession of Mrs. Teverton. The lady, thinking she is going to meet a representative of the British Government, arrives at Ellersby's rooms, where, after the "Crook" has tried to work on her affections without effect, he shows his teeth, and tells Mrs. Teverton that he has an offer of £50,000 from the State of Lentenburg, and that to save her trouble he has accepted it. He finds, however, that in Mrs. Teverton he has more to contend with than he bargained for. The secret of the explosive was handed to her by her husband as he lay dying, with the command that if England did not take it the formula should be sold to no other country, and Mrs. Teverton is loyal to her trust and her country.

Angry at being thwarted, the Crook threatens to take the formula by force. At an opportune moment Mrs. Teverton hides the document about her person, and then, holding up a bottle wrapped in paper, she informs the Crook that she holds a small portion of the deadly explosive, and with this she will not hesitate to blow him and herself up unless he instructs his valet to call a cab and let her depart. Beaten at all points, the Crook consents, but when Mrs. Teverton has gone, he sees the packet on a couch, and, thinking she has after all left the secret, he flies to it to find it is only a scent bottle. Cursing his folly at being fooled by a woman, and thinking the bottle contains nothing more dangerous than scent, he flings it into the fire. A terrible explosion shows too late that the bottle had really contained the terrible mixture. The fall of his corpse upon the floor brings down the curtain.

Miss Georgette de Serville acts with rare command as Mrs. Teverton, making the most of a trying part. As the valet, Mr. George Nelson plays with a quiet, subdued air, which just fills the part, whilst the polished villainy of the Crook could not possibly be in better hands than those of Mr. Frank Stather, who scores another distinct success. The whole piece reflects great credit on the producers, Miss de Serville and Mr. Frank Stather, and is another success to the credit of the writer, Mr. Graham Hall, whose previous sketch, "Heard in Camera," is now in its fourth year.

Mr. Allan Milton, of the Buxton Hippodrome, has arranged to show pictures of the past week's tobogganing at Buxton, and also a panoramic view of the town and vicinity in winter garb. These films have been produced in record time, and the enterprise is sure of all the support it deserves.

ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

FRED SPENCER.
"Cinderella."

The main burden of the fun, however, falls upon Mr. Fred Spencer, who is entrusted with the character of Winnie, the Baroness. He proves himself a veritable tower of strength, playing with much fertility of resource and keeping the fun at high pressure. Surely there never was a better dame than that supplied by Freddy Spencer.—From "The Era."

FRED SPENCER.

FREGOLIA.

One of the most successful of the Oxford's "acts" is that provided by Fregolia, who is described on the programme (perhaps somewhat loftily) as "Europe's Premier Protean Artiste." This lively lady's lightning changes both on the stage and among the audience are really most mystifying. And she is a capital actress to boot.—"Referee," Jan. 19, 1913.

COLISEUM SYNDICATE.

FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The fifth annual general meeting of the Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd., was held Thursday (Jan. 23) at the London Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, W.C., Mr. Oswald Stoll presiding. Among those present were Dr. Broad, Messrs. Fred Wyndham, H. J. Thomas, and Walter Battle.

The Secretary (Mr. W. S. Gordon Michie) having read the notice and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: I rise to move the adoption of the report and accounts, which I assume may be taken as read. As to the note against investments there is a contingent liability of £6,250 for debentures. On this account I may say that the contingency is very remote, and should the company be called upon to provide the money, they would receive for it excellent first debentures.

We are in a very satisfactory position to be able to maintain our dividend at its customary high rate of 22½ per cent. on the year, and yet to increase our carry forward by an amount nearly equal to a further 10 per cent. (Hear, hear.) And not only that, but also to be able to redeem debentures by the substantial sum of £9,395. The reductions under this head have amounted in five years to more than £45,000, a sum which may clearly be added to the capital value of our shares. In the same period practically the whole of the capital has been returned in dividends; whilst our investments and our cash show the equivalent of our capital in still another form. It is small wonder, therefore, that our shares stand so high in the market. However, those who turn envious eyes on our prosperity and talk of promoting ventures to emulate it, should remember that for so magnificent a property our capital is remarkably small. Also that much of the splendid run of business that we have of late enjoyed is traceable to the provincial boom in trade, created by actual war and preparations for war.

A Voice: And Mr. Stoll.

Mr. Stoll: Thank you. A trade boom confined to the provinces by the London Transport strike of 1912, and rendered thereby a very handsome present from the London worker to his provincial fellow.

However, as all popular West-End theatres become very busy as a natural consequence of provincial trade prosperity, we have no reason to complain of the London workers' misguided generosity. For our part, during the last few months and into the present year, I am glad to say we have quite beaten all our records. (Applause.)

I beg formally to move the adoption of the balance-sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending Dec. 31, 1912, which reads:—

"The total income for the year is £38,912 5s. 4d., which, with the balance of £14,682 9s. 5d., brought forward from last year, raises the credit side of the profit and loss account to £53,594 14s. 9d. After charging ground rent, debenture interest, directors' fees, and travelling expenses, secretary's salary and outlays, general and legal charges, income tax and depreciation, and deducting the interim dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum (less income tax), paid in August last, the net balance for disposal now is £34,685 9s. 9d. The directors recommend that this sum should be dealt with as follows:—In paying the managing-director's remuneration according to his agreement, £1,511 10s. 9d.; in providing for the redemption of first mortgage debenture stock, £2,500; second mortgage debenture stock, £6,895 14s. 9d.; in payment of a dividend for the second half of the year at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum, less income tax, £5,179 3s. 4d.; in carrying forward to next year £18,599 0s. 11d.

Mr. Fred Wyndham seconded.

Mr. Mitchell, a shareholder, congratulated the directors on the successful state of affairs which, he said, must be as gratifying to Mr. Stoll and his co-directors as to the shareholders generally. He looked forward with complete confidence to a continuation of the present prosperity under Mr. Stoll's able managing-directorship. But in connection with the accounts, one or two shareholders had asked him for information regarding the investments. He felt confident that they were an excellent security, yet a number of shareholders had put forward the question to him as to where the investments were made, and any information on the subject would be very greatly appreciated. He would suggest with all respect that the receipts from the investments might be shown separately in the revenue account.

Mr. Stoll replied that the directors did not wish to publish accounts which might lead to discussions at meetings of policy. But they were quite agreeable to allow any shareholder who was regarded as not hostile and not indiscreet, to go into the offices and inspect the investment list. Mr. Michie, the secretary, would be very happy to afford him that opportunity.

Mr. Jolly, another shareholder, remarked that although he was quite satisfied with the dividend for the second half of the year at the rate of 25 per cent. less income tax, he thought Mr. Stoll might consider whether the dividend might be paid without deducting the income tax, seeing that they were so prosperous. He had had occasion to bring this point forward at a meeting in connection with the coal trade with success.

Mr. Stoll replied that the directors had considered the point very carefully, and thought it was better to adopt the principle of deducting income tax, because the tax was becoming so high. He facetiously added that they would be placed in a very awkward position if the tax amounted to 2ls. in the pound! (Laughter.) However, if there was no reasonable danger of it being increased to a higher rate than at present, perhaps the directors would alter the principle next year.

The report was then adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Walter Battle, seconded by Dr. Broad, Mr. Thomas was re-elected a director, and Messrs. Gillespie Brothers and Company were duly reappointed auditors to the company.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks being accorded to the Chairman.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 10.)

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week (once nightly): Miss Edith St. Clare's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Edith St. Clare, Miss Wynnie Darrell, Miss Victoria Maitland, Miss Ruby Leyton, Miss Millie Coles, Miss Adele Prescott, the Havana Girls, Mr. J. W. Hall, Mr. Mark Lupino, Mr. Mark Practice, Mr. James Rich, Messrs. Hyman and Metford, and Mr. Arthur Cartwright.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. William Berson. — This week: Mr. Bulmer's company present "The Girl Who Went Astray." The company includes: Mr. John Worth, Mr. Evan Roland, Mr. Edwin Morton, Mr. Reg. Oldroyd, Mr. T. C. Glenville, Mr. R. Ashton, Mr. J. H. Lee, Mr. V. Minton, Miss Doris Brookes, Miss M. Steeple, Miss Sybil Houghton, Miss Nancy Newell, Miss Ray Masters. Next week: Mr. Joe Collins' "Red Riding Hood."

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—The artistes in the pantomime, "Cinderella," at this house had, without exception, another rousing reception on Monday night. The two "boys," Miss Ouida Macdermott and Miss Nell Emerald, were both at their very best, both in acting and song. The other talented vocalists, Miss Violet Russell (Cinderella) and Miss Maimie Hainsworth (Fairy Queen), were also in excellent voice. Miss Jennie Hackett and Miss Dorothy L. Townrow played the part of the Spiteful Sisters in good style. Mlle. Chiffon and the Martelli troupe of dancers were warmly applauded for their sprightly and pretty numbers.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—A capital musical comediette, "The River Girl," is being presented here this week with great success by Messrs. MacDonald and Young's company. The company includes Mr. Horace Jones, Mr. Frank Liddington, Miss Jean Eyre, and Miss Gay Silvana. All the artistes work well and with a gratifying result. The Four Ascots are accorded an enthusiastic reception for their clever dancing; the O'Mahoneys, in Irish songs, also contribute an item which is deservedly popular; Lane and O'Donnell score with a humorous acrobatic act; T. W. Wintow gives a distinctly clever ventriloquial entertainment; the Keppels are well received with vocalism; as are also the Picquays, in acrobatic feats.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Business-Manager, Mr. Chas. Boulton.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is playing here this week in the drama, "'Mid Pleasures and Palaces," before crowded houses. Miss Joan Ellis is the leading lady, and gives a splendid rendering of Iroma, and Miss Myra Eyton is equally good as Phillipe le Grande; Mr. Horace A. Whitmee gives a masterly performance as Captain Derrick; Mr. Edward E. Lewis as Roland le Grande is an able exponent of villainy; and Mr. C. Watson Mill plays Royalt in irreproachable manner.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Clement Padden.—Florence Smithers, Owen Dacroy, and company are creating much merriment in their humorous sketch, "Our Mary Jane"; the Raymond Trio contribute a pleasing musical melange; and Julian Ross, actor vocalist, also scores.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. G. Hamilton.—Harriott Vernon and Co. are giving a most enjoyable song scena, entitled "The Half-way House"; Dort and Leanora cause roars of laughter with some humorous acrobatism; and Yacob, the orang-outang, gives a marvellous performance on the trapeze.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; Resident Manager, Mr. T. Byrne; Musical-Director, Mr. W. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Macdonald presents "The Gay Gordons." The company includes: Mr. Reginald Sharland, Mr. Richard Teasdale, Mr. W. H. Desmond, Mr. J. B. Gordon, Mr. George Fisher, Mr. Gerald O'Connor, Mr. James Duval, Mr. Eric Ford, Mr. Philip Maitland, Mr. John Fanning, Mr. E. M. Williams, Miss Emily Mellon, Miss Edie Martin, Miss Ruby Louis, Miss Nellie Beacon, Miss Rene Ash, Miss Cherry Hamilton, Miss Violet Clarke, Miss Constance Clive. Touring-Manager, Mr. William Collard. Matinée, Saturday at 2.30. Next week: "Little Miss Llewelyn."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Six Bros. Luck present "H.M.S. Perhaps"; Williams and Parker, comedians; Stein Esthor Troupe; Donal McDougal, Scottish comedy artiste; Wyotti, comedy juggler; Maggie Carr, and her banjo; Paulhan Team, footballers on cycles; Leslie Harris at a piano; and pictures.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. E. H. Forman.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes presents "The Merry Widow." The company includes: Mr. Alfred Beers, Mr. Ronald Pomeroy, Mr. Adrian Beaumont, Mr. Tom H. David, Mr. Sydney Calland, Mr. Cecil Warwick, Mr. C. L. Steward, Mr. Clinton Reynold, Mr. Robert Needham, Miss Cecil Haydon, Miss Katie May, Miss Beatrice Willis, Miss Doris Ryder, Miss Gladys Gabrielle, Miss May Fortescue, Miss Dacie Bedford, Miss Ethel Darsley, Miss Adeline Role, Miss Trixie Valnor and Miss Gladys Lancaster. Musical-Director, Mr. W. Brightwell; Touring-Manager, Mr. Fuller Allen. Next week: "Jack and Jill."

TODMORDEN.

OLYMPIA.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Bennett and Tolfree, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Nicholls; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Boden.—This week (once nightly): Alix Lukos, in character studies and songs; Simple Smart, comedy acrobat; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. Edward Marris' pantomime, "Dick Whittington" is here this week. Next week: "The Princess of Kensington."

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Courtney Crocker. — This week: Mr. R. W. Russell, in character imitations; and La Duchesse with her performing animals; and pictures.

PAVILION. — Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. Austin M. Wilshere.—This week's vocalists are Miss Winifred Marwood (soprano), and Mr. Montague Borwell (baritone).

TREHERBERT.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. W. Poole; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Totten; Operator, Mr. Arthur E. Kento.—This week: Hans and Fritz, the great chimpanzees; Leonard Ure, the soldier vocalist and comedian, in song scena, "The Last Grip" and "Be British"; Lily Bradshaw and Dan Brooks, comedy entertainers, in their original vocal duos, "The £1,000 Prize" and "Conversations"; and pictures. Matinées, Tuesday and Friday at 11 a.m., and Saturday at 3 p.m.

TREORCHY.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Jones Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reg. Mothersill. — This week (twice nightly): Gerbola Trio, comedy gymnasts; Hicks and Yorke, the lady (?) and the gent; Harry Edson and his dog comedian, "Doc"; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, at 11.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—This week: Mr. Arthur Roberts and company in "The Simple Life" and "Till Sunday." The company includes: H. J. Worth, E. Sykes, Lily Leverne, Lorraine Stevens, and Townsend.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week (once nightly): Travis Green's company in "Queen of the Redskins." Touring-Manager, Mr. George Tidden. The company includes: George Tidden, May Lawrence, Phœbe Brady, Gladys Osborne, Flora Leslie, Laura Walker, Walter Wilson, Caspar Middleton, Theodore Kelly, Fred W. Leonard, Allan Carruthers, Lionel Moore, Frank Brady.

EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Francis Laidler's comedy, "The Pride of Byzantia." Touring-Manager, Mr. Wallace Stranrack.—The company includes: Mr. J. Marsden, Mr. Reg. Matthews, Mr. Arthur White, Mr. James Chippendale, Mr. Cliff Inman, Miss Lucy Murray, Miss Madge Soutter, Miss Jessie Stern, Little Elsie Pennell, Little Mary O'Hara, Miss Edith Coles, Mr. Ralph Morton, Mr. Alfred Clifton, Miss Dorothy Vere.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Tolfree; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Heath.—This week (twice nightly): Gus Fowler, the watch king; Phil Dooley, siffleur and bird mimic; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45.

GRAND ELECTRIC.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Dunnill.—This week (twice nightly): Bracewell and Bond, in comedy speciality, "The Tramp and the Doll"; Marjorie and Maude, acrobatic dancers; and pictures. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 3.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint-Managers, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—This week: Mr. Harry Burns presents his colossal production of the pantomime "Dick Whittington." It is a very pleasing version of the well worn story, and is well staged under the able management of Mr. S. H. Laycock, with Mr. Charles Seymour as stage-manager. Miss Helen Charles is a graceful Dick with a sweet voice, her whistling solo is unique; Mr. Joe Pauly as the Cat is clever; Miss Rosie Pink has a beautiful style in her dancing, and also a rich voice for so young an actress; more will be said of her. Miss Lillian Hindmarsh plays with much dash and spirit; and Miss Nina Richmond is a winsome Fairy. The humorous portions are ably given by Mr. George Jackley, Mr. Maurice Lee, Mr. Louis Le Sine, Mr. Michael Madden, and Messrs. Acre and Morris. Special mention should be made of Mr. F. W. Cornforth's Rainbow Troupe of dancers.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietor, Mr. Joseph Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. L. Warburton.—Mr. Arthur Hinton's and Miss Lulu Zillwood's company is here this week in "Allah's Orchard, or an Indian Curse." The company includes: Mr. Arthur Hinton, Miss Herbert Evelyn, Miss Florence Zillwood, Miss Annette Howard, and Miss Bertha Felsing.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—This week: The Three Alvarettas, acrobats; and Anna Dorothy, comedienne, in "The Suffragette Policeman"; La Freya; Webb and Branston, operatic vocalists; Joe Almasio and Miss Yamina, jugglers and tumblers; Arthur Ferriss, comedian; the Four Astors, rag-time artists; Blake and Adams, in sketch; and pictures.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. W. Turner; Manager, Mr C. E. Bradley.—The Royal stock company is here this week in "The Guiding Star."

WASHINGTON.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Jack Emmerson; Lessees, Messrs. The Elite Theatres Co.; Managing Director, Mr. Simpson; General-Manager, Mr. Taylor.—This week we are enjoying a visit from Mr. Gordon Gray's company in "The Babes in the Wood." Several local favourites are in the cast, and they have an especially warm welcome. Rag-time is introduced successfully, and everyone works hard to ensure success. The following are the principals: Miss Millie Derham, Miss Connie Gordon, and Miss Ethel Spencer; Mr. Wallace Lorne, Mr. John Armstrong, and Mr. Ginger Armstrong.

WATFORD.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Lionel G. Holding.—Mr. George Brydon-Phillips presents Mr. Hickory Wood's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor," the production being one of the finest seen in Watford. Miss Amy Maple scores a big success in the name-part, and Mr. Robbie Graham is excellent as the widow. Mr. Fred Maple as Hindbad, Arthur Maynard as Captain Scuttle, Miss Dorothy Ewins as Hassan, Mr. Will Lazard as the King, Miss Ada Baton as Fatima are other consistently clever artistes, whilst the dancing of Miss Marvel Day and the music as performed under Mr. Laurence Gautier go to the completion of a high-class pantomime.

WELLINGBOROUGH.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joseph Baron.—This week (twice nightly): Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: Messrs. A. Fitzmaurice and R. Lord present "The Ragged Patriot"; Ben Jackson, banjo tricks and comedy; Mons. Roelgin, assisted by Malli Ellaine and his performing parrots; Seven Wulfrunas, in comedy acrobatic act. Thursday, Friday and Saturday: Irma Lorraine, in poses and dances; Johnny Dwyer, comedienne and dancer; Menetekel, American illusionist.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

NEW PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. George H. Mortimer.—This week: Kneller, post horn soloist; Revene and Revell, comedy acrobats; Delvaine's Marionettes; Edgar T. Hayes and educated pony "Billy," a wonderful act; Frank Powell, comedian; Mirth and Melody, musical comedy act; Bros. Lawler, dancers; Henderson and Sheldon, banjoists; and Marie Jones, presenting her lightning change comedy playlet, "Wanted! Co-respondent."

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Seaward.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. J. Newton Cowling presents "The Collier's Lass." The company includes: Mr. Harry Saintsbury, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. William H. Melrose, Mr. Benn Carr, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Esterbrook, Mr. Fred Barres, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Bella Moody, Miss Adell Lidden, Miss Annie Graham, Miss Elsie Sheltom. Touring-Manager, Mr. Stanley Redcliffe.

EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richd. Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Thornton Smurthwaite; Musical-Director, Mr. Horace Marshall.—Mr. George Black's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," produced by J. M. Jones, is being played for six nights and a matinée. Miss Freda Danillo is the Dick, and other artistes in the cast are Miss Gibson, Mr. Sam Fay, Mr. Jack Conan, Mr. Dan Rodney, Miss Gertrude Gaye, Miss Daisy Gaye, Mr. T. Ross, Mr. F. Ross, Miss Jean King, Miss Kitty Rhodes, and Miss Maisie Grey.

PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. W. G. Alderson; Manager, Mr. W. Capner; Musical-Director, Mr. S. Grahame. — Clark and Cambridge; the Merry Prison Warders; and the Claxons, entertainers and a piano, are the artistes supplementing a display of pictures, the principal in which is "Monte Cristo."

WEYMOUTH.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. R. Wallis.—Mr. Percy Williams' company in "The Fatal Wedding." Cast includes: Mr. Frank Liston, Mr. Gerald Kennedy, Mr. Harry M. Vernon, Mr. J. K. Woods, Mr. Frank Ashley, Mr. J. Newton, Mesdames Maud Warburton, Beatrice Shirley, Blanche Huber, Marjorie Aubrey, Edith Dews, Hilda May, and Daisy Trenchard, and Masters Leonard Wricks and Tom Grice.

WHITEHAVEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will Gibson; Conductor, Mr. Fred Merryman.—This week: Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company in "The Still Alarm." The company includes: Mr. V. Fortescue, Mr. G. Gaisford, Mr. E. Hobart, Mr. V. Harvey, Mr. W. Edwards, Mr. V. C. Rolfe, Mr. B. Ince, Miss Mabel Veriten, Miss Dorothy Hilebrande, and Miss Margaret Framo.

PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Victor Branford; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. T. Hurst.—This week: Silent Tate and Aimee, in comedy act; the Alexanders, court musicians; and pictures.

ST. JAMES' ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. Victor Halliwell.—This week: Butt and Ward, vocalists; Mackintosh and Royal, clog and big boot dancers; Sam Osborne, comedian; and pictures.

WHITLEY BAY.

SPANISH CITY THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. The Whitley Pleasure Gardens Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. J. D. Johnson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Chas. Elderton presents "Aladdin." An excellent company includes: Mr. Harry Levaine, Mr. George Delamere, Mr. Horace Wyatt, Mr. Herbert Fuller, Miss Florence Curran, Miss Alice Raymond, the Sisters Terry, and the Bros. Granville.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Robert Scott; Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Turnbull; Musical-Director, Mr. H. J. Mansfield.—This week (twice nightly): The Gem Sextette, in harmony, song and dance; and pictures.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, The Wigan Entertainment Co. Ltd.—This week (once nightly): The Moody Manners Opera Co. The company includes: Mr. Kushell, Mr. F. Davies, Miss Watt, Miss Bessie Weir, Miss Raymond Amy, Mr. Wilson Pembroke, Mr. William Anderson, Mr. Flintoff Moore, Mr. R. Cliffe, Mr. Jeffson. Touring-Manager, Mr. J. MacCabe. Next week: "The Arcadians."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, The Wigan Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Musical-Director, Mr. G. Robertshaw.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Travis Green and Graham Winsford present "The Pride of the Prairie." The company includes: Graham Winsford, Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Morton Wright, Arthur Duval, Harry Sydney, Henry Goodier, C. Young Fixott, William Cann, J. J. Stadden, G. Leslie Buxton, Walter Hicks, Cecil Harding, Ling Treherne, Leonard Gardener, Frank Shirley, Jack Entwistle, Ben Batty, Ernest Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Werner, Alfred Sooper, Etta Delamere, Elsie Dene, Mary Pitcairn, Ethel Bickham. Touring-Manager, Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan. Matinée, Monday at 2.30. Next week: "Robinson Crusoe."

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—General-Manager, Mr. F. C. Kimberley; Musical-Director, Mr. H. Bradley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Harry Foxwell presents "Only a Mill Girl." The company includes: John Burton, Jack M'Caig, Harry C. Robinson, Rupert S. Carlton, Bernard Lovett, Edwin Clarke, Roy Gordon, William Beck, Paddy, Alex. Thurston, Joseph Foster, T. Henry Melton, Bertram Taylor, Tom Myers, Daisie Cook, Emmie Dorris, and Alice Greenwood. Touring-Manager, Mr. R. S. Carlton.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. H. Ketteman; Musical-Director, Mr. Thos. Thursfield.—This week (twice nightly): Phil Ray, comedian; Edith Harmer, comedienne; Takio, Japanese animated mimic; Herbert Rule, comedian; Edie Gray and Boys, singers and dancers; Gerano, juggler; Harry M. Vernon presents "Canada"; and pictures.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton.—This week: Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "Kismet." The company includes: James Hughes, Fred Gage, Joseph Lynch, Arthur Mann, C. Hart, Norman St. George, Val Gulley, Frank Lester, H. M. Holles, Riddell Robinson, Dorothy Whitaker, Mara Collings, Flo Sewel, Louie May and Enid South, Robert Gray, Cecil Du Gue, Jay Ellis, Ernest Miller, Leonard Mavis, Jack Kelly, H. Barber, Philip Sefton, Val Cully, Rene Challis, Marion Hunt, and Madoline Rees.

WORKINGTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. Maud.—This week: Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in "The Mill Girl and the Miner; or, the Lass that Loved a Collier." The company includes: Mr. Stuart Lomath, Mr. Malcolm Strachan, Mr. Hugh Travers, Mr. T. Armitage, Mr. Charles Trevor, Mr. Harry Emerson, etc., and Misses Connie Tremayne, Miss Catherine May, Miss Ellen Owen, and Miss Kitty Johnston.

YNYSHIR.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Fred Terry; Musical-Director, Miss M. Gunter.—This week: Brinn in pastimes on a battleship, and the Phydoras, comedy dancers and musicians.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. F. Elliston presents "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Fred Maitland, Rowland and Ford, Frank Lloyd, Alex Cameron, Hervey Cameron, Miss Marie Brayman, Miss Rene Marsden, Miss Ethel Haydie, Miss Mabel Costello, Miss Dorothy Meade, Sisters Cairns, George Melbah. Touring-Manager, Mr. Harry McClellard. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2. Next week: "A Scrape o' the Pen" and "Sweet Nell of Old Drury."

OPERA HOUSE and EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—This week (twice nightly): The Sensational Boises, human aeroplanes; Eily Adair, comedienne and dancer; Jas. Farrow and Zonnie Fiske, baritone; Louis Guertin, champion jumper; Jack and Willie, coloured equilibrists; James Dixon, baritone; Dan Booker, chorus singer; McConnell Trio; and pictures. Next week: "Cinderella."

ROBBERY OF AN ARTISTE.

Charged with breaking into the house, in Louisville-road, Balham, of Miss Jennie Cuthbertson, music hall artiste, and stealing property to the value of £55, Leslie Sherwood, aged 22, grocer, and Charles Robert Spencer, aged 21, motor mechanic, pleaded guilty at London Sessions on Thursday before Mr. Lawrie.

Dr. Counsel, who prosecuted, said that Spencer was a friend of the occupier of the house, and when Miss Cuthbertson returned from a holiday on Jan. 4 she found the house had been burgled.

Detective-Sergeant Baker said Spencer's parents were highly respectable people of independent means living at Ramsgate. Spencer had robbed his mother time after time, and on one occasion stole a ring from her of the value of £105. He had committed numberless frauds at Ramsgate.

Mr. W. A. Ward, on behalf of Sherwood, said he was grandson of a former Mayor of Folkestone. Spencer had the latchkey of the house, and when assisting to remove the property he was innocent of any felonious intent, believing the property belonged to his companion.

Spencer was sentenced to six months' hard labour, Sherwood being released under the Probation Act.

"BOOTBLACK AND SKIVVY."

An agreeable trifle, with little or no plot to worry about, was produced on Monday at the Empress under the title of "The Bootblack and the Skivvy." On the rising of the curtain the mere male of the duo known as Cullen and Emery is discovered dressed as a bootblack kneeling at his box and singing a song, entitled "Shine, shine, shine." To him enters a lady whose costume is nothing if not eccentric. The bootblack persuades her to have her boots cleaned, and discovers whilst doing it that she is a servant. Of course he falls in love, and meeting with a fair amount of reciprocity they sing the duet, "Kneeling at your feet." At its conclusion he has to hurry away to keep an appointment, she being kind enough to look after his business in his absence. A real "nut" enters—one of the swagger nuts—and is surprised to find a lady bootblack. Naturally, he has his boots cleaned, and also loses his heart. He is so successful, too, in singing "Follow me," that she, quite forgetting her original lover, decides to follow the toff. The bootblack lover, however, appears just in time, and she decides to remain faithful to him. The dual-part of bootblack and swell is ably acted by the gentleman of the duo, who receives capital support from his lady partner. The sketch, which goes well from start to finish, should have a good future.

"THE MIRACLE'S" NEW HOME.

After concluding a successful month's presentation at the Royal Opera House, the cinematograph reproduction of Reinhardt's masterpiece has been transferred to the Picture House in Oxford-street. This new and elegantly appointed building (situated at the corner of Poland-street) will hold between 600 and 700 people; and under the skilled business management of Mr. H. Bannerman (representing Messrs. Hyman and Rosenthal) "The Miracle" should continue to attract large and appreciative audiences.

The case of Mr. Leslie Stuart came up on Tuesday before Mr. Registrar Linklater, in the Court of Bankruptcy, in connection with an application to approve a scheme of arrangement, which had been accepted by the creditors, and which provided for the payment of 7s. 6d. in the pound, claims for £1,240 being withdrawn. The liabilities were estimated at £8,043, and the available assets at £1,659. Mr. Frank Mellor, for the debtor, said his client found that he would not be in a position to carry out his proposal, and therefore with

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FILM GOSSIP.

"Her Education."

A comedy-drama of the real West is "Her education," released by the Selig Polyscope Company on Jan. 30. "The Kid," known by no other name, is a daughter of the range, and pal of the rough, big-hearted men that ride it. Her father meets his death in an attempt to protect her from the insults of a repulsive saloon keeper. Before his death "The Kid's" father insists, to her utter horror, that she secures above all other things an education. After the killing "The Kid" follows and shoots the saloon keeper, and then, absolutely alone, with only a few dollars, she sets out on horseback to fulfil her father's dying wish by gaining entrance to the state university. While riding along a precipice her horse stumbles and she is thrown to the ledge below, where she lies unconscious until Joe Emory, a young Irish sheep herder, finds her, and nurses her back to life. Two happy weeks are spent together by the young couple, so strangely introduced, and sad are their hearts when the time for parting comes, for "The Kid" is determined to carry out her father's last desire. She arrives at the university finally, and, in company with a new-found cowboy friend, she applies for admission to the "learnin' factory." The faculty refuse her request, and her cowboy friend proceeds to lick the whole bunch of "wisdom pilots" one by one. "The Kid" and her pal are arrested, but are later set free, and she loses no time in getting back to the range and Joe Emory, and then it is not long until a minister is found, who joins the young couple. 970ft.

"Dupin's Clarinet."

A capital comic film, released by the Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd. on Feb. 5, is "Dupin's Clarinet." On the stall of a second-hand shop Dupin discovers a fine clarinet. Being an accomplished performer on the instrument, he quickly strikes a bargain, and walks off with his prize. Unable to curb his impatience to try the clarinet, Dupin plays on it along the street, charming (?) the ears of the passers-by. Seeing a gang of labourers hoisting a heavy weight by means of a crane, Dupin strives to lighten their labour with his music. The men leave their work and commence to dance . . . but the weighty load slips and falls on Dupin's head. On releasing him the labourers discover to their horror that the clarinet has gone down his throat, and is sticking out on the other side of his head! Dupin continues his walk, and implores everyone he meets to pull the clarinet out again, but although many make strenuous efforts to remove it, the instrument will not budge. At length two blacksmiths get to work with hammer and wrench, and after a few moments the obstinate clarinet is forced out again, and our merry friend, with his infectious smile, trots away, none the worse for all he has been through. 305ft.

"On the Mountain of St. Gothard."

This interesting and finely pictured scenic is the first of a series of six films dealing with the beautiful mountain district of St. Gothard. Released by the Gaumont Company on Jan. 30, it concerns itself with the journey from Biasco to Faido. At Bodio, the Gramosina Cascade is the first noteworthy sight, and proceeding from there we pass through the spiral tunnel of Travi, across the two viaducts at Giornoco, and arrive at the point where the Tessin leaps through the gorges of the Biaschina into the valley. Another fine cascade is that of the Cribiasca, and then, arriving at Faido, a still finer waterfall occurs in the course of the Piumogna. A special feature of this scenic is the relief map, which indicates the route of the journey step by step. 400ft.

The Commercial Redskin.

The picture business has proved a veritable bonanza to the Indians in the western reservations, says an American Exchange. The demand for the real Redskins has solved the problem of tobacco and firewater. The Kessler-Bauman film concern has a large number of Indians under service. One hundred Sioux Indians from the Pine Ridge reservation are working for them, and with every five of them a chief is required. The Indians receive from seven to eight dollars a week, with their expenses. The chiefs are responsible for their bands, and are paid from ten to twelve dollars per week.

The Stage-managed Savage.

This is surely a considerable "come down" for the noble Red Indian of our boyhood's favourite reading. We always believed in him as the untamable savage, who, thirsting for the scalps of the "white faces," could only be tamed when he was dead. We regret the change somehow, but suppose it was inevitable that at some time or other he and his picturesque savagery would be stage-managed before the whirring apparatus of the film faker.

"Satan."

On Friday, the 17th inst., at the Middlesex Music Hall, was screened a remarkable film in "Satan," "a series of studies of the Genius of Evil throughout the history of the world." Acquired by the Monopol Film Company, it measures 6,000ft., and occupies something like two hours in screening. The first part is inspired by Milton's "Paradise Lost." We also see the Evil One in mediæval times, where he tempts the alchemist in the decoction of alcoholic drinks. In the last series of pictures Satan is shown as a strike leader. Many of the scenes are very effective and cleverly stage-managed, and the acting throughout is admirable.

"The Hotel Mermaid."

Messrs. Pathé Frères release on Jan. 29 an amusing and excellently acted little comedy in "The hotel mermaid." On learning from the Press that a mermaid has been seen off the coast, Callehan, the landlord of the Seaview Hotel, with typical Yankee shrewdness, determines to utilise the fact to advertise his hotel. He enlists the aid of his pretty daughter, an accomplished swimmer, who consents to pose as a mermaid. After being well primed in her part, the mermaid is brought to the notice of the local Press, and, later, the "Seaview News" announces that the mermaid is to be seen in the vicinity of the Seaview Hotel. Thereupon there is a rush of visitors to the hotel, and the host is jubilant at the success of his dollar-making scheme. The visitors watch the mermaid from the beach, and the masculine section comes to the conclusion that it cannot be happy until one of their number has captured her. All the gilded youth, some in boats and others swimming, therefore try to seize the elusive fair one, who, in the traditional mermaid manner, sometimes sits on a rock combing her hair. She always contrives, however, to evade her would-be captors, and remains a mystery until Callehan, deciding to improve the advertisement, tells his guests that she has been caught, and that he will present her to them. Upon which, his charming daughter appears in their midst, and proves as powerful a magnet to the male visitors as she was when a sea-maid. 460ft.

New Electric Theatre, Dundee.

Mr. Arthur Howard, the genial general-manager of this attractive resort, screens many beautiful films this week. A most interesting film is that entitled "Quicker-than-thought movements," in which is seen a bullet darting from a pistol and shattering a clay pipe, which is quite beyond the naked eye, all the actions being recorded. "Nan in Fairyland" is a delightful Christmas story; "Peril of the cliffs" and "Red barrier" are fine dramatic subjects; and "Cook's bid for fame" is a screamer. Gaumont's Gazette is, as usual, a popular item, and the orchestral selections are deservedly popular.

"Les Misérables" at Belfast.

The great picture "Les Misérables"—which takes two and a half hours to show—is being exhibited at Belfast Picture House, Royal-avenue, this week, and has proved to be a tremendous attraction, crowds of people, in fact, being quite unable to gain admission. The development of this moving picture, in which no fewer than 12,000ft. of film is used, and innumerable scenes, persons, and actions are involved, is one of the most extraordinary forms of entertainment of the time. Mr. N. Hobart, the courteous manager of this beautiful theatre, deserves a word of praise for his indefatigable efforts to please many thousands of patrons.

Leicester Picture Theatres.

At the Picture House this week and next Victor Hugo's masterpiece, "Les Misérables," is being shown once nightly to booked houses. It is drawing all the fashionable people of the town and county. There is also another fine film in "Kings of the forest," a wild animal picture.

At the Grand Electric Palace the management are this week showing "Sister Beatrice," a miracle play, of which they have secured the exclusive rights. It is an extremely interesting and finely-presented film, and is also drawing crowded and enthusiastic audiences.

At the Floral Hall Picture Theatre there is to be seen this week a remarkably fine picture in "The black mask," which is being supported by a well-selected programme of the latest released films, making up an entertainment that is meeting with crowded houses.

A Popular Manager.

Mr. Harry Bruce was engaged from September last as manager for the New Picture House, 165, Oxford-street, opened on Friday, Jan. 24. Whilst acting as preliminary manager, he also held the reins of management of the Majestic, 36, Tottenham Court-road, and owing to his success there he will be retained. Mr. H. Bannerman will take over the management of 165, Oxford-street, in his place.

Permanent and Portable Cinemas.

F. H. Heath, Ltd., 22, Bridge-street, Manchester, are specialists in the building of cinemas, music halls, circuses, &c., permanent and portable, for home and export. Preparing their own plans and designs, they have erected a large number of buildings in various parts of the country, a specimen frontage of which may be seen in our advertisement columns.

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CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

The executive committee of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland met at the offices of the Association, Broadmead House, Panton Street, Haymarket, on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1913, when the members present were: Messrs. Henry Mason, Arthur J. Gale, F. W. Ogden Smith, P. M. Beck, L. Schlentheim, W. Fowler Pettie, R. W. Brading, R. T. Jupp, and the secretary (W. Gavazzi King).

Owing to Mr. E. M. Barker's absence in the South of France for reasons of health, the chair was taken by Mr. W. Fowler Pettie.

The Secretary reported that it has been unnecessary for him to communicate further with the manufacturers, in view of a letter received from the secretary of the Incorporated Association of Kinematograph Manufacturers, Mr. J. Brooke Wilkinson, on Dec. 13, containing the following announcement:—

"I have also to inform you that the question of licensing films, which has been under the consideration of my Association for some time past, has now been dropped."

In a further communication, the Incorporated Association of Kinematograph Manufacturers, on Dec. 30, wrote with reference to the decision of the Association communicated to them as to the release date of films:—

"In further answer to your communication of the 26th November, in respect to the release dates of films, the letter was read at a meeting of my Association last evening, and I have to report that, as far as possible, manufacturers will follow the advice therein suggested."

In further reporting, the Secretary (Mr. W. Gavazzi King), stated that on Dec. 18 he attended a meeting at the Wesleyan Hall, Sheffield, convened by Mr. Morris Yaffe, to form a local association. The Rev. T. Horne was present and addressed the meeting, and Messrs. H. D. Moorhouse, J. Harrison, and Montanini, from the Northern Central District, also attended. All those present agreed to join the Association, and Mr. Morris Yaffe accepted the position of hon. secretary.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting, the secretary attended, on Jan. 1, a meeting of the Liverpool Association at the Bee Hotel. Unfortunately neither Mr. Gale nor Dr. Jupp were able to be present, but Mr. L. Schlentheim was happily able to attend, and his cogent arguments and tactful presentations of points, together with his geniality and influence, were effective in producing a satisfactory result.

Correspondence.

The following correspondence was reported and considered, from Messrs. H. D. Moorhouse, hon. secretary, and J. Harrison, chairman of the Northern Central District; F. W. Morrison, hon. secretary of the Northern District; H. Reynolds, chairman of the Midland District; E. Haigh, chairman of the Liverpool Association; Heyford Smith, Cinema de Luxe, Limited; Thomas Power, Magnet Film Company; Tyler Film Company; "Kinematograph Weekly," enclosing letter from the secretary of the Motion Picture Exhibitors' League of America; W. Harlan, Electric Theatre, Portobello, N.B.; Albany Ward, Weymouth; M. W. Shanly; Morris Yaffe, hon. secretary of Sheffield and District; Fred R. Goodwin, Clapton Rink Cinema, with reference to the Licensing of Operators Bill; W. A. Miller, Longton Picture and Variety Entertainments, Limited; F. Montague Barber, Empire, Hednesford, with reference to the non-delivery of films by a renting agency.

Liverpool.

Mr. L. Schlentheim presented a satisfactory report of the negotiations conducted by the delegates to the Liverpool Association, and intimated that the meeting appeared to be entirely favourable to amalgamation. This was confirmed by an official communication from the chairman of the Association.

London District.

The Hon. Secretary of the London District (Mr. Arthur J. Gale) reported that at the last meeting of the members of the London District it had been decided to forward the following resolution to the London County Council:—

"That this general meeting of the London Cinematograph Exhibitors is of the opinion in view of the widespread demand for Sunday cinematograph exhibitions, particularly from the working classes, it would be only reasonable that a seven days' licence should be granted to the cinematograph exhibitors throughout the County Council area, but if your council should be averse to the granting of such seven days' licence, this meeting would suggest, in order to protect exhibitors against the reproach of evading your County Council regulations in respect of the amount of receipts, and with a view to render such evasion absolutely impossible in every case, that instead of the present system a definite percentage of the gross takings on Sundays be given to the charities, and this meeting suggests that this amount be fixed at 20 per cent., which is 3 per cent. in excess of the sum paid to the charities during the last period for which statistics have been issued to the public."

Kinematograph Exhibition.

The committee discussed the desirability of holding the annual dinner of the Exhibitors' Association in connection with the Kinematograph Exhibition. It was decided that the dinner should be organised during the term of the exhibition, but not at Olympia, and a committee was appointed to make arrangements and also to consult with the other branches of the trade with reference to the annual trade dinner.

Licensing of Operators Bill.

Upon this matter being brought up for discussion, strong opposition was evinced to the terms of the proposed Bill, and Mr. F. W. Ogden Smith moved the adjournment of the question, and gave notice of a resolution for the next meeting.

M. Pathe and Baron Fassini's Combine.

The interview which recently appeared in the "Bioscope," and letters which followed from Messrs. Williamson and Henderson were discussed, and the following resolution was passed unanimously, and the secretary was instructed to forward same to the Press:—

"That this Committee of Exhibitors have carefully considered the statements made by Mr. Charles Pathé in the trade press, advocating a combine of their firm and several others, with a view to form a Continental group of manufacturers formed to supply films direct to the exhibitor, which entails the ultimate elimination of the hirer, and desire to point out to Messrs. Pathé and other manufacturers that the members of the Exhibitors' Association are pledged to support only those manufacturers who will support an open market for the sale of films."

Yorkshire District.

A communication from Mr. George Duffield, of Leeds, with reference to the formation of a district of the Association for Yorkshire, was read, and it was resolved to agree to the formation of a Yorkshire District.

District For Ireland.

The Secretary reported that he had been in communication with Mr. W. Payne Seddon, who had been interesting himself in the organisation of Irish exhibitors in connection with the Association. A strong desire had been manifested by Irish exhibitors to extend the operations of the Association in that country, where the Association already possessed a number of members, and the secretary was instructed to proceed to Ireland and establish branches in Dublin and Belfast.

Licensing Authorities Regulations.

A large number of complaints from all parts of the country with reference to the increasing severity and injustice of the regulations now being imposed upon exhibitors having been received by the secretary, it was resolved to call the subcommittee appointed to deal with this matter together at once, and to invite delegates from the various districts of the Association to prepare a memorial to the Home Secretary.

Film Renters' Agreement.

Copies of the agreement submitted by the Incorporated Association of Film Renters, Limited, for the consideration of the Exhibitors' Association having been placed upon the table, and the following letter read from Mr. H. Cluett Lock, secretary of the Film Renters' Association:—

"With further reference to your letter of the 3rd December, the amended agreement submitted by your Association has been considered by my council, and they ask me to say that they are now of the opinion that the relations between exhibitors and renters at the present time hardly call for an agreement of this kind. The customs of the trade with regard to the hiring of films have worked with apparent satisfaction all round, and the agreement as now amended opens so many new points for consideration that my council would prefer at present to leave the conditions of hire to be settled between individual renters and exhibitors."

The following resolution was passed:—

"That this committee views with considerable anxiety your committee's decision not to further discuss a fair agreement as between renter and hirer, and would most seriously protest against any attempt being made to read into law as customs of the trade the printed form your members have in the past, and are still apparently, attaching to their invoices."

Railway Charges.

The secretary was instructed to communicate with the Film Renters' Association on this matter.

A large number of members were proposed and duly elected.

A well-known concert comedian, who prides himself on his non-professional appearance, tells a tale against himself. When searching for lodgings in Bognor in Goodwood week, he found everywhere full, and at the last of the addresses given him, the landlady said tersely, "Two guineas." "Nonsense!" said the C.C.; "I've never paid two guineas per week in my life." "Two guineas per day, I mean," replied the landlady; "all the other jockeys pay it!"

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THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The London County Council resumed its meetings on Tuesday, after the Christmas vacation, Lord Cheylesmore (chairman) presiding.

SUNDAY CINEMA ENTERTAINMENTS.

The recommendations of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee having reference to the conditions under which Sunday entertainments should be allowed in premises licensed under the Cinematograph Act again came before the Council, having been adjourned from several previous meetings.

Mr. E. Mumford Preston, the chairman of the Committee, said that since the report was first submitted certain legal proceedings under the Act had taken place, and an appeal was pending in a case which raised the question whether cinematograph theatres using non-inflammable films were subject to the regulations of the Council. Under the circumstances it would be impossible to have a debate without the introduction of matters which it would be undesirable to discuss at the present time, and later it might be necessary to reconsider the recommendations in the light of the judgment to be given in the appeal case he had referred to. He therefore asked permission of the Council to withdraw the report.

Mr. Stuart Sankey said he was prepared to move that the report be referred back to the Committee. In October last the responsible parties were summoned for an alleged breach of the regulations, and a question arose as to whether the films were inflammable or not. A case for a superior court was stated, and obviously it would be a great mistake for the Council to discuss at the present time the Committee's recommendations in reference to the Sunday opening of cinematograph shows. These recommendations had been gone into with great care by the Committee; but their consideration should be postponed, because if the decision in the appeal case were to go against the Council some of these places would not be liable to their jurisdiction, and they would be imposing restrictions they could not enforce.

The chairman said he could not allow a motion for a reference back to the Committee.

Objection to the withdrawal was raised by the Progressives, and on the chairman putting recommendation A 16 members voted for it and 25 against. It was therefore not carried, and recommendation B was then withdrawn. On the agenda were several amendments to the recommendations.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

The following report was received from the Public Control Committee:—

We held our annual meeting for the licensing of employment agencies on Dec. 6 and 7, 1912, when 54 applications for new licences and 814 applications for the renewal for the year 1913 of existing licences, together with 2 adjourned applications for new licences, were submitted to us. Objections to the renewal of licences had been lodged in 9 cases. In one case the objection was made on behalf of the Council; in one case the objection was lodged by the Amalgamated Musicians' Union, but was withdrawn before the case came on for hearing; in one case the objection was by the Variety Artistes' Federation and the Variety Agents' Association (Ltd.); while in the remaining six cases the objectors were private individuals. As the result of our consideration of the applications we refused 3 applications for the renewal of licences, granted 51 new licences, and renewed 774 licences, while 2 applications for renewal were withdrawn, the consideration of one was postponed until January, 1913, and the remaining 39 applications stood adjourned.

We held a further licensing meeting on December 13, 1912, when, in addition to the 39 adjourned cases referred to above, 14 further applications for new licences and 6 further applications for the renewal for the year 1913 of existing licences were submitted. As the result, we granted 14 new licences and renewed 25 licences, and we adjourned the consideration of the remaining 20 applications.

Appeals have been lodged against our decisions with regard to two of the three licences refused, and we will report further thereon in due course.

The report was received without comment.

NEW CINEMATOGRAPH HALL.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee recommended that a certificate be granted for a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected in High-street, Eltham, drawings for which had been submitted by Mr. F. H. Buen.

Agreed to.

THE TIVOLI, &c.

With reference to the proposed reconstruction of the Tivoli, the Committee recommended that a further period of six months be granted for the commencement of the works.

The Committee recommended the granting of a certificate for a building, to be known as St. Mary's Hall, proposed to be erected in Hotham-road, Putney, and for which it was intended to apply for music and dancing and occasional stage play licences.

These recommendations were approved.

Corn Exchange, Cirencester.

The Corn Hall, Cirencester, will shortly be opened as a high-class picture theatre and skating rink, to be known as the Electric Empire, under the proprietorship of Messrs. Roy B. Shenton and F. Yarnton Ruck.

TO THEATRE AND CINEMA OWNERS AND OTHERS.

HAMMERSLEY, KENNEDY, & Co., Ltd., of Jessel Chambers, 88-90, Chancery-lane, W.C., require, on behalf of a wealthy client, particulars of Theatres or Picture Palaces, or sites suitable for the erection of same, in London and in any good provincial town with not less than 50,000 inhabitants. The purchaser has large purchasing powers, and will give fair prices for any suitable properties offered.
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VARIETY LAW.

AGENT'S LICENCE REFUSED.

A decision of the London County Council in reference to an application for a licence to carry on an employment agency was the subject of proceedings, on Tuesday, before Mr. Denman, at Marlborough-street, on a summons by way of appeal against the refusal of the Council to grant a licence to Alfred William Kelson Trueman, at 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, as a music hall and dramatic agent.

Mr. A. H. Bodkin represented the London County Council; Viscount Tiverton appeared for Mr. Trueman.

Mr. Trueman stated that he was an operatic and theatrical agent, and for the past fifteen years had carried on business in that capacity at Shaftesbury-avenue. He also gave lessons in singing, and procured engagements for his clients. In December last he received £50 from a Miss Dancey, for which he engaged to teach her singing and introduce her to the stage, and had obtained for her a number of engagements, which brought her in about £35. He had been adjudicated a bankrupt, and attributed his position to bad debts, to the practice of theatrical managers in engaging artistes direct, instead of through an agent, and to the borrowing of money at exorbitant rates of interest. If the licence were granted he could still carry on the agency, although he was not at all keen on the business now, but wished to remove the stigma which had been cast upon him by the Council's refusal to grant the licence.

Lord Tiverton said there was no reason for the refusal of the licence, as there was no suggestion of any kind against Mr. Trueman's character.

Miss Ethel Dancey, called on behalf of the London County Council, stated that towards the end of 1911 Mr. Trueman heard her sing at Bognor, and told her she had a good voice, but sang out of tune, and required training. He offered for £50 to put her voice right, and obtain engagements for her for twelve months. She was to be trained at his office at 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, and was to have no engagement out of London. He told her she would not only get her money back, but 100 per cent. more in the twelve months.

In cross-examination, witness said she felt aggrieved in the matter. With regard to the licence, she had instructed her solicitors to communicate with the London County Council in opposition to its renewal. She had heard that Mr. Trueman was an operatic tenor, and was of opinion that he ought to have procured her more engagements

In re-examination, Miss Dancey said at times Mr. Trueman was rude, and used offensive language.

Mr. Denman said in years gone by there had been many complaints of the manner in which employment agencies had been conducted, and he had had before him cases in which numbers of persons had been shown to be most heartlessly defrauded, when they wished to enter the musical or theatrical profession. In this case Mr. Trueman appeared to be a person to whom it was impossible not to sympathise. He had applied for a renewal of his licence, but the County Council in their discretion had decided that he was not a suitable person to hold it. One of the grounds of the refusal was that he was an undischarged bankrupt, and having regard to the fact that such agents were entrusted with considerable sums of money at times, it was desirable that they should be persons in a substantial position. It was impossible in the circumstances to suggest better ground for refusal. They hoped the appellant's affairs might improve.

Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, a smart and clever principal boy, is again making so great a success as Abdallah in Harry Burn's "Forty Thieves" pantomime, that she has been re-engaged to create the same part next Christmas, this making her fifth season with the same management and her eighth consecutive season in pantomime. She has been the recipient of many presents.

S. W. Wyndham, who is at the Holborn Empire this week, is making a success which must be very gratifying to him, being "called" six times at each house, and then having to come before the "tabs." A comedian different from all others, Wyndham's original style is effectively employed in a ditty called "Don't forget your little dicky bird," a big laugh throughout and one of the hits of the bill.

It is interesting to note how the greatest artistes in the land are craving the advice of Mr. Bert Feldman. Wherever that gentleman peregrinates nowadays the panto. luminaries one and all ply him with the question: "What do you advise me to sing after pantomime?" And why is this? one may well ask. Is it a case of "nothing succeeds like success," or is it some magic spell that the rag-time king has cast over the entire profession? We fancy it is a matter of both factors in combination. We do not actually know what Mr. Feldman has answered when his advice was thus sought, but we think the following sentence will come very near what the musical seer said:—"Feature in your variety 'turn' ragtime hits that you have scored so heavily with in panto., and you need have no fear of the result, either artistically or financially."

Shareholders in the Coliseum Syndicate may be congratulated on the further improvement revealed in the past year's accounts. The total income for the twelve months amounted to £38,912, and, with the substantial balance of £14,682 brought forward, the divisible surplus is £53,595, in comparison with £24,035 and £34,974 respectively for the previous year. After making the various deductions representing prior charges, &c., the net balance is £34,685. The sum of £9,396 is provided for debenture redemption, the dividend is again 22½ per cent. for the whole year, and the balance taken forward is raised to £18,599.

The inhabitants of Darwen have to thank the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. F. Hindle and Mrs. F. G. Hindle) for one of the most pleasant evenings ever spent in the town, invitations being issued by the Mayor and Mayoress to over 1,000 of the principal residents to attend the theatre on Thursday, including the members of the Town Council and other officials and employees of the Corporation, postal, telegraph, police, St. John Ambulance, National Reserve Battalion, and other local bodies. The house was crowded from stalls to galleries, and presented a brilliant array. The Mayor and Mayoress were accompanied by Town Councillors Messrs. Alderman John Tomlinson, A. T. Eccles Carnus, and Jas. Tomlinson, and Councillors John Pickup, G. P. Holden, J. T. Ballantyne, G. Butterworth, W. P. Kay, also the Borough Surveyor, Mr. R. W. Smith Saville, the Borough Treasurer, Mr. S. Crook, and the Postmaster, Mr. E. Green. The entertainment provided by Mr. Baker, the popular manager of the theatre, was of excellent quality, and the various turns were much appreciated, consisting of the Gascoynes, Hunter and Bob, Brothers Ford, J. C. Silvarno, Jean Robb, and Ida Revell, the pièce de résistance being the popular cowboy sketch, "Silver Creek," presented by that clever and well-known young actress, Miss Helena Millais, and her company of fifteen English and American artistes, with which the performance was brought to a close. The scenes are bright and suffused with light and activity, and the inspiriting acting of the company gave colour to the general effect.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 1.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub-Lessee, Mr. Stephen Black.—The Black season will soon close, and the houses have been fairly satisfactory during the short season. Following on the 6th inst. Len-Arx and the Duncan Combination Co. open for a fortnight.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—The popular lessee can have no cause of complaint, for the houses are packed afternoon and night here. A good all-round programme includes Norman Osborne (ventriloquist), the Sisters Leslie, La Belle Gretan, the Creedans, and the ever-popular Nat Clifford, who has been re-engaged for another week.

GRAND.—Manager, Mr. Davis.—Good houses are the order here. The company includes: Messrs. De Banns, Hanna and Bert, novelty dancers, and Signorita Maria la Bella, Spanish beauty and dancer; the Crown Trio, Swedish-American vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

DURBAN, Dec. 30.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler; Manager, Ed. Pickering.—The Wheeler-Edwardes' Gaiety Co. opened their season with the delightful musical comedy, "Peggy." The house on the opening night was crowded. Abounding in exceedingly humorous situations, with delightful music, "Peggy" may be marked down as one of the most enjoyable pieces toured by this talented company. Such well-known artistes as Tom Payne, Miles Clifton, Miss Daisy Wallace, Miss Beatrice West, Miss Betty Shale, and Miss May Stevenson are mainly responsible for the success of the opening production. Mr. Ed. Pickering (looking remarkably well) has the entire business arrangements in hand. On the arrival of this company in Cape Town, where the tour finishes, the company are to be disbanded.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. M. Hyman.—The Schwartz company, in "The Broken Mirror" (an original farce-sketch) have proved a wonderful draw this week; Maud Stanley (descriptive vocalist) sings two excellent songs, and is encored; a novelty turn is that of Doraine Sisters and Wood.

CRITERION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—Jack Stugelly is topping the bill here this week, assisted by his well-trained poodle, the act is clever and funny; James Eadie and Cissie Ramsden, in their well-known sketch, "Charlie's Visit," score a big success, as on their first visit only four weeks back; and the Frohmans, in a delightful musical interlude, are very popular.

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 30.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—Last week saw the conclusion of the Gaiety company's season, when revivals of "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Quaker Girl," and "Peggy" were produced. The company was farewelled in style, and all its members leave Johannesburg much to the regret of the public, with whom they are prime favourites.

STANDARD THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—"East Lynne," "When London Sleeps," and "Charley's Aunt" has been popular fare at this theatre in the last few days. In "East Lynne" Miss Eva Moss, as Lady Isabel, shone. In "When London Sleeps" and "Charley's Aunt" Mr. Malcolm Tearle has taken all the laurels. Mr. Tearle is a young gentleman of a family that has given many sterling actors, and he is rapidly coming to the front.

EMPIRE.—Miss Madge Temple, musical comedy artiste; La Pia, the enchantress; the Surf Bathers; the Palace Girls; Miss Marjorie Lawrence; Reynard and Rosella; and the Great Hymack, chameleon comedian, have all combined to pack the houses each night. Excellent business has been done during holday week, "standing room only" being the cry from the booking office.

ORPHEUM.—Manager, Mr. E. D. Martin.—Mark Anton, quick-change artist; J. W. Wilson and Nellie Waring, in refined vaudeville; and Jess and Tony in song, dance, and patter, have been enthralling Orpheum audiences during the week. A fine selection of films complete.

BIJOU.—Manager, Mr. E. R. Gourdean.—The films shown at this popular Bioscope can usually be relied upon as being the best that the market can give. In addition, Harry and Marie, comedians, kept the audiences amused.

Mr. Frank Wheeler has sailed for England on a business trip to fix up the 1913 musical comedy company.

"The Perch Club" is the title of a new sketch to be produced under the auspices of Mr. Harry Tate, at the Palace, Watford, on Monday. Messrs. Woody and Wells will be the principals in the production, which has not the remotest connection with "Fishing."

The Floradoras have returned to London, and close the programme this week at the Granville, Walham Green, and holding a laughing audience with the funniosities of their screaming musical comedy, "Two's Company, Three's None."

Mr. Charles Clifford, the favourite harpist and entertainer, who has been fulfilling several private engagements around London, is looking wonderfully well after his long tour of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Mr. Clifford plays upon two harps—one, a large Erard; the other, a small Irish harp. The latter is an especially unique instrument on account of the sweetness of tone and rarity, and his delightful entertainment is very much appreciated by all who see and hear him. At the London halls he used to delight audiences years ago, and should do so again. He commences a long tour on Feb. 17.

Mr. Algernon Victor Bradley, late manager of the E. H. Bostock Circuit and of the New Guildford Theatre, and acting-manager of the London Theatre of Varieties, has been appointed acting-manager at the Kingston Empire, in succession to Mr. C. Royce, who has taken up an appointment at Aldershot. Mr. J. Gladwin still retains the managership of the Empire, and Mr. C. Ross is the assistant-manager and Press representative.

The Magistrates and Council of the City of Edinburgh are prepared to receive offers for the tenancy of the Waverley Market House for next Christmas and New Year season. The conditions of let may be ascertained on application to the City Chamberlain, City chambers, Edinburgh, with whom sealed offers, marked "Offer for Christmas Tenancy of Waverley Market," should be lodged on or before Thursday next, the 30th inst.

The first death at the Music Hall Benevolent Institution since its opening, fourteen months ago, occurred on Saturday last, when Miss Etty Gray, a performer well known when she appeared in London and the provinces as a member of Harry Liston's Concert Company, died from herat failure, at the age of 67. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, at the Twickenham Parochial Cemetery, this being the first interment in the new grave recently purchased by the Benevolent Fund and Institution. Among those present were the two brothers of the deceased, Miss M. Okey, matron of the Institution; Mr. T. C. Callaghan, the superintendent, representing the committee; and several of the inmates of "Brinsworth." The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Mr. W. R. Dunkley, of Westminster Bridge-road.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The twenty-fifth year of the Showman's Guild finds it in a more prosperous condition than ever before, and the enthusiasm of the crowded assembly at the Agricultural Hall on Wednesday, when the annual meeting was held, bore testimony to their confidence in its future. The chair was occupied by Mr. Patrick Collins, president, and among those who supported him were Mr. C. Watson Wright (solicitor and Parliamentary representative), the Rev. T. Horne (chaplain and organiser), Mr. Henry Studt (Vice-President for Wales), Mr. Frank Turner (hon. treasurer), and Messrs. Forrest Bros., R. J. Clasper, T. E. Read, W. Wilson, Alf. Ball, Wm. Beach, Fred Gray and Son, Jacob Studt and Son, B. Howden, C. Relph, Anderton and Rowland, John Evans, W. Corona, A. Biddall, Wm. Biddall, Murphy Bros., W. H. Marshall, G. Marshall, T. Clarke, Relph and Pedley, and other prominent London and provincial showmen.

The traders and friends of the Guild present were Miss Anita Welton, Messrs. R. Garrett and Sons, C. Burrell and Son, Wm. Foster and Co., J. Bibby and Co., R. H. Mellor and Sons, J. Wentworth, A. G. Dowle, Savages, Ltd., and representatives and agents of the principal railways.

The Rev. T. Horne having read the twenty-fourth annual report, which appeared in our last week's issue, the chairman said he was glad to say their association was progressing marvellously. Showpeople were now looked upon, not, as in past years, as aliens, but as men and women, members of a grand society. That society had lived for twenty-four years, and was very healthy. Their finances, too, were in first-class order, and they were ready to fight anybody who came along to step in the way of their business. They had a strong hold on the public, who felt that they gave them a delightful, amusing, and educative entertainment, open under the canopy of heaven, not in the dark, but under a brilliant light, by which one could pick up sixpence if he dropped it on the ground. As amusement caterers for the people, they were second to none in the country. (Applause.)

Mr. Watson Wright dealt with the Parliamentary work of the Guild. He said it was only right and proper that he should remind them of the difficulties which they were called upon to face during the past few sessions of Parliament. In the session 1898 the county, borough, and other local authorities began to harass individual members, showmen, and roundabout proprietors throughout the kingdom, and if their proposals had become law they would not have been able to carry on the perfectly legitimate business of amusement caterers. Their executive committee realised that it was necessary to take some action to oppose proposals calculated to injure their members, and since then they had opposed, by petition in the House of Commons, and arrangement with various corporations, over 75 Bills, which had been dealt with successfully. They had met the promoters of those measures on 28 different occasions in the Houses of Parliament, and in every instance but one had succeeded in having obnoxious clauses struck out. In the only case in which they had not succeeded, the promoters had made amicable arrangements. He reminded them of important items which had been before Parliament. In 1901 the Borough Councils opposed the locus standi of individual members of the Association to be heard by Parliament, whereupon the Court of Referees decided that individual members could have a locus standi, but not the association. In 1903 their locus standi was again opposed by the borough of Hyde, when the Court of Referees again decided that members could appear individually against any measure affecting their interests, but in 1904 the Standing Orders of the House of Commons were altered to permit associations to represent the various interests for which they were formed, and the association appeared on several occasions without any objection from promoters of Bills, until the borough of Luton, in 1911, had the audacity to say they were not entitled to appear, and objected to their locus standi. They fought the case with the help of their counsel, Mr. Evan Charteris, who had done so well on every occasion he had appeared on their behalf, and, finally, the Court of Referees decided, and it was now on the law reports, that they as an association, in addition to their individual locus, were entitled to appear and to oppose those measures. (Cheers.) Surely everybody was now alive to the fact that showmen had certain rights, and it was therefore desirable that all corporations and local governing bodies should realise that on every occasion where they made proposals calculated to injure them the Guild would have a voice in the matter.

The Rights of Showmen.

Everybody carrying on the business of amusement caterer was entitled to the same civil rights and the same consideration from Parliament, from the magistracy, and others in authority, as any other class of persons in the kingdom. He challenged anybody to say but that they as a class were quite as respectable as any other under his Majesty's Government. He wished that their traducers and faddists, who, through perhaps ignorance, had made statements of the most slanderous and libellous character against showpeople, could see them now, investigate their lives, their methods, their businesses, then they would alter their views. He doubted whether the people who had interfered with them would have been so busy making those statements had they known that in their business alone was represented the sum of over two millions of invested capital—that had been proved before committees of the House of Commons—to say nothing of the initial cost of the machines, roundabouts, and shows, and the fact that they were still spending money. Were they to have no protection for that capital? What about those hundreds and thousands of people directly and indirectly interested in their business? The executive of their Association had taken care to see that their rights were respected. In the last Session of Parliament they dealt with six Bills containing clauses likely to injure them. Satisfactory terms had been made by the urban district of Tavistock. With regard to the City of Liverpool, the officers of their executive desired to acknowledge the courtesy of the Town Clerk and chairman of their committee for the very splendid way they received the officials, and on the businesslike method adopted in treating with them. They had made good terms, also, with the authorities at Cambridge, who had promoted a Bill by which, if they liked, they could put in force regulations totally prohibitive of their carrying on their business. The Guild put forward arguments, and came to an agreement on a scale which they believed would be satisfactory to all parties. The Association did its work for every showman, roundabout proprietor, and stallholder, and the humblest member of it would have his rights guarded equally with their grand president, "King" Collins. It was not right for any man travelling to keep outside the Association, because they were leaving them to do the work and spend the money, while they shared in the advantages obtained. (Cheers.) He reminded them that the Guild executive scrutinised every Bill filed and the Bills containing clauses which would have to be dealt with had been deposited by Corporations and Councils respectively at Aberystwith, Barry, Derby, Mynyddislwyn, Southgate, Southport, and West Bromwich. The only serious one was that of Aberystwith, which had promoted a Bill containing a clause which had been struck out of all the Bills the Guild had opposed in Parliament. It was Clause 39, which read: "No authority, company, or person other than the Corporation shall, without the consent of the Corporation, hold any market or fair in a district within a radius of four miles from the town clock in Aberystwith." That was the sort of clause that they had struck out many times past, and could not become law. If it did become law, it might prevent them carrying on their legitimate business, but they would be looked after while the Rev. Thomas Horne was alive and well, as they were delighted to see him. (Hear, hear.) That Association was pleased to know that all over the country there was considerable prosperity. Showmen were as patriotic as anyone else, and they would use their utmost endeavour to be good citizens, to carry on their business in a straight manner, and to be allowed to live their lives, as they did, as good as anybody else. (Cheers.)

The Guild Chaplain's Address.

The Rev. T. Horne said what Mr. Watson Wright did not know about amusements was not worth remembering. He had served an apprenticeship three times over to the legal side of the Guild's work. They had had the Parliamentary side of the work from him, and it remained for the speaker to give the other side. The defence of fairs immediately came under his active co-operation, in conjunction with the various divisional committees. They had heard that certain interests were threatened in the important circuit of Wales, and he had specially invited Mr. Henry Studt to come to London. Whenever anything occurred that in any way affected the interests of the great show circuits of this country it was their duty to call into their deliberation the members of the divisional committees, and though there were a large number of names in their book which appeared to be only ornamental, when the services of any member were needed they did not scruple to bring him up from his circuit to the House of Commons or the House of Lords to appear as a witness. (Cheers.) He was confident that the Mitcham matter would be settled in accordance with the Guild's wishes. They had won over the support of that great body of independant opinion which exists in every community. Every year they had carried on the defence of Mitcham they had made more and more friends, until they were able to number amongst their supporters the leading gentlemen of the district. Co-operating with them in their efforts to bring about a peaceful settlement of that vexed question, they had not only the best thought in Mitcham, but they had the decision of the Secretary of State for the Home Department and favourable opinion of prominent officials of the Home Office. (Cheers.) The dear old Church of England, whose slave and priest he was proud to be, stood behind them, from the highest archbishop to the poorest priest who ministered at the village altar. Showmen should remember that when the person came amongst them he came, not as a spy to find out things to report against them, but as their local chaplain. When any of those gentlemen who had associated themselves with the work of the Guild bid them attend a service or went to proprietors for the loan of their booth for a service, let them do with them as they had done with him—put their shows and their people at the disposal and answer the call of the Church upon the fairground. (Cheers.)

Guild Work Approved.

Mr. Frank Turner proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting endorses the action of the Guild during the past year." He said no general could lead his army into battle without ammunition, and it would ill become that society if they did not provide their leader with that commodity. To furnish ammunition would be the best endorsement of the work of the Guild. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Studt, who urged members not to leave all the work of the society to the leading showmen, but to come forward and help. The resolution was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Council of the Guild, to the President, to Mr. Read for giving the use of the hall, and to the Press was proposed by Mr. Bibby, who said he wanted to see the younger members of the Association come forward and take the place of the veterans like himself. Their president, Mr. Patrick Collins, was one of those veterans, but he hoped he would continue for many years to occupy the position.

The vote was seconded by the Rev. T. Horne, who said he desired to add the name of one who would always be held in the greatest respect—Mr. Joe Caddick, who, he was sorry to tell them, had refused to accept the position of vice-president to which they had elected him, because he thought his work of defending the Guild in the Press would be more effective if he signed his name as an ordinary member. Since they had met last year, continued Mr. Horne, there had passed away to the better land some of the best and ablest and most loyal members of the Guild. He referred especially to Mr. John Studt and Mr. Frank Bostock, whose names were written in the tenderest chapter of the book of memory. Any words of his would be utterly inadequate to tell what they felt about them in the innermost shrine of their hearts. Of all of them let them say "God rest their souls."

The vote of thanks was heartily accorded.

Members' Subscriptions, 1913.—First List.

P. Collins (President)	£12	0	0	J. Bibby and Co., Ltd. (hon. mems.)	2	2	0
Henry Thurston and Sons	10	10	0	Wm. Wilson	2	0	0
Henry Studt and Son	7	0	0	F. and T. Fitzpatrick (hon. mems.)	1	10	0
Fred Gray and Son	8	0	0	T. E. Read	1	1	0
John Collins	7	0	0	Miss Welton (hon. mem.)	1	1	0
Forrest Bros.	5	5	0	Wm. Kemp (L. & N.W.R.) (hon. mem.)	1	1	0
Anderton and Rowland	5	5	0	Tom Smith (G.C.R.) (hon. mem.)	1	1	0
Charles Thurston	5	5	0	E. W. Whattam (hon. mem.)	1	1	0
Marshall Hill	5	5	0	R. J. Clasper	1	1	0
R. Garrett and Sons (hon. mems.)	5	5	0	A. G. Dowle (hon. mem.)	1	1	0
C. Burrell and Sons (hon. mems.)	5	0	0	A. Biddall	1	1	0
E. H. Bostock	5	0	0	Alf Ball	1	1	0
Hibbert and Sons	5	0	0	R. H. Mellor and Sons	1	1	0
W. Codona	5	0	0	John Searle	1	1	0
Relph and Pedley	4	4	0	J. H. Geoghegan	0	10	6
John Evans, Jun.	4	0	0	E. Geoghegan	0	10	6
John Proctor	2	2	0	Charles Relph	0	10	6
Jacob Studt and Sons	3	3	0	"Pharos"	0	10	6
Wm. Thurston	3	3	0	F. Wilson	0	10	6
H. Thurston, Jun.	3	3	0	F. Gray (Yarmouth)	0	10	6
Wm. Foster and Co. (hon. mems.)	2	2	0	Mrs. Whiting	0	5	0
Wm. Mitchell, Jun.	2	2	0	T. Beach	0	5	0
Wm. Murphy	2	2	0	W. Adams	0	5	0
John Murphy	2	2	0	G. Harvey	0	5	0
Frank Turner	2	2	0	H. Jones	0	5	0
T. Clarke	2	2	0	Wm. Manning	0	5	0
John Green	2	2	0	Charles Bibby	0	5	0
				T. Stone	0	5	0
				R. Griffiths	0	5	0
				W. Hodges	0	5	0

The above list is not a complete one—the omitted names will appear next week.

Fairground at Southport.

An important announcement as to terms of tenancy, &c., appears in our showmen advertisements this week. Seaside entertainers and showmen should note the Corporation's official notice.

Pierrot and Concert Pitches at Gravesend.

The Corporation of Gravesend invite tenders for pitches on the promenade and in their concert enclosure for the coming season. See the advertisement.

Sale of Waxworks Exhibition.

The famous Southbridge Edinburgh show is advertised for sale this week.

New Patents.

This list is specially compiled for "The Era" by Messrs. Rayner and Co., registered patent agents, of 37, Chancery-lane, London, from whom all information relating to patents, designs, trade marks, &c., can be obtained gratuitously.

LATEST PATENT APPLICATIONS.

1,230.—Charles Francis Edward Swinden. Advertising medium. Jan. 16, 1913.

1,285.—Anton Bares and Johann Weiss. Alarm device for announcing fire and burglary. Jan. 16, 1913.

1,457.—Frederick Hebblethwaite. Showcards, signs, and the like. Jan. 18, 1913.

SPECIFICATIONS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

593.—Kiralfy. Amusement or transporting device.

901.—Hewett and James Truscott and Son, Ltd. Advertising and like cards.

2,566.—Beville. Illuminated signs adapted to be supported above the globe or like part of an incandescent electric lamp.

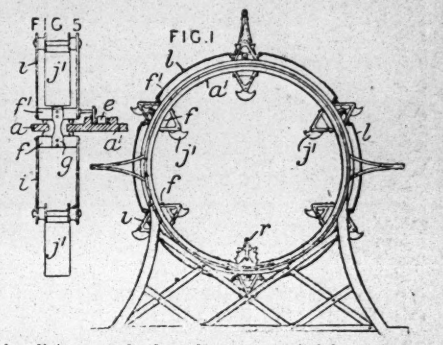
9,445.—Amyes. Amusement apparatus.

17,632.—Mattarelli. Fire-extinguishing devices using chemical reagents.

28,260.—Le Maitre. Targets.

LATEST PUBLISHED ABSTRACT.

"AMUSEMENT APPARATUS" (21,137, of 1911).—In an amusement device, two annular frames, a, a^1, are arranged to form a vertical circular track for a series of duplex carriages, each of which supports two passenger cars, j^1. Each carriage consists of two trucks, f, f^1, running on the inner side and the outer side, respectively, of the circular track, and rigidly joined by bars g. The cars, j^1, are freely suspended from the outer ends of frames i, attached to the trucks. The carriages are joined



by distance rods, l, and are connected to a chain which passes round a channel in one of the frames, a, a^1, and is driven by any suitable means.

"TARGETS" (21,725). E. J. Solano, 4, Park-lane, London.

Printed copies of the specification can be obtained from Messrs. Rayner and Co., at the price of 1s.

PRESENTATION TO SIR ROBERT FOSSETT.

At the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Thursday last, a grand presentation was made to Sir Robert Fossett, circus proprietor, and the oldest equestrian director of the present day. The splendid present given was a ring whip, presented by Mr. F. Astley Lorenzo, also of circus fame. The stock of the whip is made from whalebone and beautifully mounted in gold, with the engraved initials of Mr. F. A. to Sir R. F. The presentation took place before a vast and most pleasing audience. The whip was handed to Sir Robert Fossett by Mr. J. Tronson, in the presence of Mr. T. E. Read, the lessee pioneer of the World's Fair; Mr. Thomas Holden, Mr. Ohmy, Mr. See Mee, Mr. J. Embeson, Mr. John Sanger, Messrs. G. and H. Austin, and the giver of the whip.

On leaving the arena the band struck up the familiar strains of "Auld Lang Syne." It is sincerely hoped that the veteran circus proprietor may indeed reign many years yet to come in the hearts of his friends and the great heart of the British public.

That deviser of mysteries, David Devant, is the chief feature of the generous programme that has been arranged for the Victoria Palace next week. In the course of some forty-five bewildering minutes Mr. Devant will present a series of extraordinary tricks and illusions, including "The Artist's Dream."

There will be a special Mystery matinée at the Victoria Palace on Saturday next, when the entertainment will be furnished by David Devant, who will work wonders that it is impossible to include in the brief time devoted to his turn in the evening bill.

Will Douglas and Co. are doing extra well in the provinces with their original act, "The Merry Demons."

This week Layton and Douglas, quick-change instrumental soloists; Percy Farrimond, the singing collier; and pictures, make up the programme at the Royal Pavilion Picture Palace, Rawtenstall.

Included in the bill at the Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, this week, are Howe and Ardie, Miss Constance Bellamy, Lowery's Six Juveniles, Shamus and Kittie, and pictures.

The programme at the Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth, this week consists of the Wilton Heriot Trio, Carrie Joy, Max Fuller Golden, Miss Carlotta Levey, Rose and Challoner, and pictures.

The following are appearing at The Gem, Great Yarmouth, this week,—Mme. Ada Colley, the Australian nightingale, Chinn, Sisters Lily and Dolly Lang.

Mr. Alfred Butt has been hustling round New York, and it is on the cards that he has secured an American revue. This, we understand, will be put on with the same company as are now playing it on the other side.

Mark Anton has made the biggest success of any artiste sent out for Africa's Amalgamated during the past year, and he is the first artiste since Rameses to play two consecutive weeks at the Johannesburg Orpheum. The African Press speak most highly of Mark Anton's act, and a big success is predicted for him in all the provincial towns.

A pleasing incident marked the close of Mr. Yolland's engagement with Mr. Lucas on Saturday last at the Gem Palace, Great Yarmouth, when Mr. E. V. Barr, the managing-director, handed Mr. Yolland a cheque in recognition of the work he had put in as advance agent in booming "Dickens."

"House Full" boards were exhibited at the two performances on Tuesday last at the Palace, Bath, when a grand Buffalo night was given. Mr. Leslie Fairfax, the genial manager, did all in his power to assist the promoters in their good work, and, in addition to the artistes engaged for the week, several local ladies and gentlemen gave their services.

AN OLD SHOWMAN.

Mr. Herbert Crouch, lately the proprietor of "Wonderland," Glasgow, is an interesting character. He came first to Glasgow Fair with a large peep-show, dear to youth in days gone by, and was afterwards in the galvanic battery and ring-board line. Later on he opened a show in the Trongate, where he had a shooting range and mechanical models. The models Mr. Crouch bought from Johnny Anderson, the founder of the Polytechnic in Argyle-street. Anderson had in the middle fifties a wax-work and museum, situated in the Colosseum Buildings in Jamaica-street, where now the Colosseum Warehouse carries on business. After four years in the Trongate, Mr. Crouch opened a wax-work at 136, Argyle-street, and from that until 1912 "Wonderland" was the home of the strangest human freaks and oddities ever exhibited.

Mr. Crouch claims to be one of the oldest freak showmen in Britain. He was the first showman to exhibit Barnum's famous bearded lady, Annie Jones, in this country. She was a genuine freak, with a sweet voice and pleasant accent. People flocked to "Wonderland" to see her. Annie was, without doubt, a pretty woman, in spite of her luxuriant hirsute appendage, which was the envy of all the fledgling junior clerks who spent their pocket money in patent hair producers. When I think of the famous freaks exhibited at Wonderland what a troop of once familiar faces rise—like the shadows in "Macbeth"—before me! Chang, the Chinese giant; Jo-Jo, the dog-faced man; Castagana, the living skeleton; Chauncey Morlar, Indiana's fat boy; Krao, the missing Link; Princess Topaze, the living doll; Annie Bell, the Ohio giantess; Radica and Doodica, the undivided Hindu twin sisters; the Australian cannibals; Huber, the armless artist; Frank and Emma de Burgh, the tattooed marvels; Lin Loo San and Lin Tang San, the Chinese twins; Frank Lentini, the three-legged Italian man; Miss Francis Sinclair, the Yorkshire fat lady; Johnny Trundley, the fat boy of Peckham; Mme. de Vere, Barnum's champion lady sword-swallower; and—and—though I could enumerate more, many more, I must stop, else the list will reach out to the "crack of doom."

An astounding freak was Jo-Jo, who was boomed by Barnum as "the very masterpiece of nature's wildest whims, with a bright mind behind the visage of a dog." He was born in Russia, and spoke four languages. Jo-Jo possessed a phenomenal growth of long, silky hair over his eyes, on his nose, ears, chin, and neck, this hirsute adornment giving him something of the appearance of a Skye terrier. Miss Sinclair was a particularly plump lady, weighing over 40 stone—it was a Sabbath day's journey to walk round her. Notwithstanding her great weight, she could walk with great nimbleness. Princess Topaze was a Parisian novelty. The little lady was a midget, measuring only 20 inches in height, and was in all respects perfectly formed, and without a deformity either in mind or body. The Princess came on the stage in a toy barouche drawn by a couple of diminutive Shetland ponies, and afterwards, with considerable agility, danced a sailor's hornpipe and a bolero, adopting for each the appropriate costume.

Krao was a hairy Burmese woman. She created a great sensation every time Mr. Crouch exhibited her at "Wonderland." Krao was the nearest approach to the missing link between man and monkey. From the crown of her head to the soles of her feet she was covered with long fur-like hair, jet black in colour, and quite soft to touch. From her eyebrows upwards her whole head was adorned with jet-black hair of a rather coarse texture, while the face, arms, hands, and feet and the whole body were completely enveloped in a natural soft fur of black hair, entirely covering her dark skin. The nose was level with the rest of the face, as in a monkey, and in her full, rounded, pouch-like cheeks she could stuff food just as a monkey does. Krao could speak English, French, and German.

Frank Lentini, who is still alive, was last exhibited by Mr. Crouch in the winter of 1908-9. This three-legged wonder is a native of Sicily, and can kick a football with any leg. Chang was a handsome and square-shouldered giant. He stood over 8ft. high. Chang liked to talk, and could do so in almost a score of languages. French came most glibly, but he also spoke Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, German, Italian, Hindustani, Japanese, and, of course, English.

That delightful principal boy Miss Gloria Lawrence still continues her victorious career in pantomime with the Star Music Co.'s two great songs, "My heart is with you to-night" and "Keep on swinging me, Charley," with which she has been winning plaudits loud and long throughout her provincial tour.

The Leeds Symphony Orchestra, Ltd., has been engaged for the forthcoming series of Saturday orchestral concerts, conducted by H. A. Fricker, Mus.Bac., at the Leeds Town Hall. The orchestra is composed of many of the most experienced and well-known Yorkshire artistes, and has appeared with pronounced success at the concerts of the Leeds Philharmonic Society, Newcastle and Gateshead Choral Society, Sunderland Choral Society, Bishop Auckland Choral Society. The orchestra is due at the three last-mentioned places in March next. Mr. Edward Maude has recently been appointed secretary of the company.

PANTOMIME SEASON, 1913-14.

WANTED.

First Class Theatres only- Large Stages indispensable,

FOR

CINDERELLA

AND

JACK HORNER.

Now playing to absolutely record breaking business at the Wimbledon Theatre and The Opera House, Leicester.

CINDERELLA.—Universally admitted to be the finest production ever made of the subject. Eleven beautiful scenes by Conrad Tritschler. Over 400 magnificent Costumes, designed by Wilhelm.

JACK HORNER.—The best Pantomime produced by J. F. Graham during his thirteen years' management of the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham. Fourteen elaborate, beautiful, and mechanical Scenes. Over 400 gorgeous Costumes designed by Comelli.

Address—**J. F. GRAHAM,**
"The Chase," Sanderstead, Surrey.

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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

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Each additional word, One Penny.

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WANTED, First-class Companies for
KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E.,
April 14, June 2, 9,
Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 15, 29, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.,
March 24, April 14, 21, May 5, 12.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 14, 21, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
April 21, May 19, Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 1, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Dec. 15 and Xmas for Good Pantomime.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
March 3, April 21, May 12, 19,
Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
April 21, May 5, 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
March 3, 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
March 24, April 7, 14, 28, May 12, 19, 26, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes for next Christmas at:—
Opera House, Leicester, five and a half weeks.
Royalty Theatre, Chester, three weeks.
County Theatre, Reading, eight weeks.
Dalston Theatre, four weeks.
Please say where can be seen.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, March 10, May 5 and 12, and few autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann, 21, Maiden-lane, W.C.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
The Most Charming Theatre on South Coast.
Seating capacity over 1,000.
Holding £120 at ordinary prices.
Open all the year round.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Feb. 24, March 10, 31, May 5, Whit, and on. with exceptions.
Re Dates, apply Jay and Mann, 21, Maiden-lane, W.C.
Other coms., W. R. Wallis, Manager.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
March 3, 17, 24, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 24, April 14, 21, May 12, on.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Feb. 3, and onwards to Easter.
Address, Wm. Holland, T.R., Canterbury.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Companies, Feb. 10, 24,
March 10, 24 (Easter),
and various dates onwards.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.

WANTED, Feb. 17 (?), on, exceptions, Panto. Production, Xmas.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 10 and 17, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 12 (Whit.). Also Autumn. Apply, J. E. Bull, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee: Lieut.-Colonel Winstanley.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Feb. 10, 17, and later (three nights each).
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-st., Haymarket, S.W.

KEMBLE THEATRE, HEREFORD.
A Magnificent New Theatre, Holding £100.

WANTED, High-class Attractions.
All communications re dates,
Adams' Agency, Broadmead House,
Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W.
Tel., "Shrieking Charles, London" (counts two words).

THEATRE ROYAL, SWANSEA.
This newly constructed, redecorated, and refurnished theatre is now open for staging the very best productions on the road.

WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Comedy, High-class Plays, Pantomimes, and every other kind of money-making attraction.
Vacant dates to William Coutts, Proprietor.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
The most successful twice-nightly theatre in the North. Packed houses nightly.

WANTED, only the Best Attractions, for March 10, onwards, with exceptions. Refer to all managers been here as to business done.
All communications, J. Chas. Imeson, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Companies,
Feb. 17, 24,
Feb. 17, 24,
Feb. 17, 24,
Fred Morgan, Manager.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.

WANTED, important Attractions, Feb. 10, 24, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. THE
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant, March 17, 31, May 5, June 2, 9, 16. onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Vacant, Early Spring Dates.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
Vacant, Early Spring Dates.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant, Early Spring Dates.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

MANAGERS, PLEASE SEND VACANCIES.

"CINDERELLA," vacant Jan. 27.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," vacant Feb. 3.
"RED RIDING HOOD," vacant Feb. 3.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE," Feb. 3.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, RAVENSCOURT, WORCESTER.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 17, 31, April 7, 14, 21, 22, 23 (three nights), on, with exceptions.
Open to treat with first-class management for a three months' Stock Season from about the first week in May.
Applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, March 31, April 7, 28 (?)
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19.
O.H., BELFAST, Feb. 17, 24, March 17, 24, May 12.
O.H., CORK, Feb. 24, April 28, May 5.
G.T., SWANSEA, June 2 (?), 23, 30.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON,
Feb. 10 (3 nights), May 5 (?)
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17, 31 (?).
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, Feb. 17, 24 (?), March 31.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, April 14, May 19, on.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices,
1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.

Scotland's Premier Drama Theatre.

"Mormon and his Wives" closed (Saturday night) to over £100.

This week, "The Great White Chief."
Next, "The Gambler."

WANTED, "crowd" attracting plays, April 28, June 2, July 7, 14, 21, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, and spring, 1914.

Address, Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London. Wires, Aitenev-Ox-London. 'Phone: Regent, 1,480.

KELLY'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Powerful Attractions, for
Weeks of March 17 and May 5.

Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

EMPIRE THEATRE, TONYPANDY.

This magnificent building is now in the full tide of success. There is no other theatre in the Rhondda Valley that can compare with it for comfort, size, and the excellent business done since the new management took over.
GROSS FOR THE FIRST FOUR WEEKS OVER £1,600.
Will managers refer to Mr. S. R. Squires, "Leah Kleschna"; Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, "Apple of Eden"; Mr. H. L. Osmond, "Babes in the Wood" Pantomime; and the O'Mara Opera Co.?

WANTED, March 17, 24, and various, on. Share or Certainty.
Companies playing Porth or Pentre need not apply.
SAM DUCKWORTH,
EMPIRE THEATRE,
TONYPANDY.

MARLBOROUGH, LONDON, N.

WANTED, owing to alteration of arrangements, Feb. 10.
Feb. 10.
First-class Attraction.
Apply, Ernest Stevens, Marlborough, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions (not Drama), either once or twice nightly,
March 3, 10, 31.
March 3, 10, 31.
March 3, 10, 31.
Now playing to holding capacity nightly.
James Bell.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 7, Sept. 1, on.
Address, Sidney Bacon,
143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, Gerrard 1456.
Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

WHITEHALL THEATRE, EAST GRINSTEAD.

WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy and Comedy Companies, March 5, 19, April 16 and 30. Matinée and evening performances same day.
Address,
Cecil Barth, The Little Theatre, London, W.C.

METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD.

WANTED, Companies, twice nightly, March 3 and 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Wanted, Companies, March 3 and 10.
Stanley Rogers, T.R., North Shields.

WANTED, Good Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, Feb. 24; Opera House, Workington, March 3. Stanley Rogers, T.R., North Shields.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Feb. 10, 17, and intermediates, on. Address, E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, First-class Comedy or Musical Companies, April 7, on, Londesborough Theatre, Scarboro'. Letters to W. H. Waddington, 43, Stonegate, York.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL.

WANTED, first-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions (once and twice nightly), March 17, onwards (with exceptions); also autumn. Coms., direct to John A. Walker.

COMPANIES WANTED.

BOOKED BY MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.

WANTED, big Attractions for the following dates:—Aug. 18, Sept. 8 and 29, Oct. 13 and 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 8.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Wanted, big Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 1, and Nov. 24.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Wanted, big Dramatic Attractions only for the following dates:—March 17 and 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5.
Write, with full particulars, to Moss' Empires, Cranbourn-street, London. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions only, for the above popular Drama Theatre, as follows:—
March 31,
April 7,
April 14,
April 21,
May 5,
May 19,
May 26,
Aug. 4,
Aug. 11,
Aug. 18,
and on, with exceptions.
Write, with full particulars, Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-street, London, W.C. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.

WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
Spring Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Spring.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only, April 14, 21, 28. Business under new management increased 40 per cent. Pantomime beaten all records.

Bookings include: "Peter Pan," Forbes Robertson, "Drake," "Bunty," "Glad Eye," "Quaker Girl," "Sunshine Girl," "Girl in Taxi," "Arcadians," &c., &c.

Vaudeville season.

One house nightly,

May, June, and July.

Highest-class edition de luxe bill.
No acrobats or sensations.

Address all communications to
Sole Director and Manager,
James M. Glover.

GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.

Resident-Manager, H. W. EBBUTT.

One of the most up-to-date theatres in Scotland. Entirely new electrical plant recently installed. The only fully licensed and equipped theatre in Stirlingshire.
Full stage, capable of mounting the largest productions touring.
Holding capacity over 2,000. Popular prices.
Now in 10th year of success and business excellent.
No vacant dates till autumn.
Now Booking Autumn and Spring, 1914.

WANTED, First-class attractions, Musical Comedies, or good Dramas, for few remaining dates, Autumn and Spring, 1914.
Apply, H. W. Ebbutt, Resident-Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions.
April 14, and Autumn.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter (last three nights only), Whit., June 30, and on. Also good pantomime, Jan.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Manager, Jan. 13, Opera House, Cork.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Variety Attraction, March 17, April 7, 14, May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, on, with exceptions. Also Good Attractions, Musical, Variety, or Dramatic, Garrison T., Tidworth, Feb. 10, on, with exceptions.
ALFRED MANNERS.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.

WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy Shows, once and twice nightly; vacant dates, March 3, 10, 17, 31, May 5, 12, 26, and various autumn dates.
Wire or write, Rea, Palace, Gloucester.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LEIGH, LANCS.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Feb. 10, 17, March 3, and various, and later.
Apply, Manager.

NEW RINK THEATRE, WREXHAM.

The Metropolis of North Wales.
Local population exceeds 90,000.

Now open for staging the finest productions on the road. Stage 50ft. by 40ft.
Pros. opening 30ft.

WANTED, Musical Comedies, Dramas, &c. First-class only.
Write,
W. Wood Winstanley, Manager, re dates, &c.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.

WANTED, Strong Attraction, March 10 and March 24, Easter Week.
Apply, Dick Adams, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
A first-class theatre run on first-class lines.

WANTED, Wanted, Big Attractions for Feb. 3 (panto. preferred),
Feb. 3 (panto. preferred),
March 3, Sept. 15, and few on.

James Hare, Manager and Proprietor.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.

WANTED, First-class Attractions. Only vacant dates, July 7, 14, 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 11 (3 nights), Sept. 15 (3 nights), Sept. 22, 29. Bookings and pencillings include: Carl Hertz, "Glad Eye" (return), "Jelf's," "Dust of Egypt," "Witness for the Defence," "Milestones," "Cingalee," "Quaker Girl," &c.
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

GAIETY THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Whit week, May 12.
Apply, W. Roberts-Marshall.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 17, April 7, May 26.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

PIER THEATRE, HERNE BAY.
PIER THEATRE, HERNE BAY.
PIER THEATRE, HERNE BAY.

WANTED, First-class Companies for one or two good season dates remaining (3 nights).
Last year's bookings included:
"The Quaker Girl," "Dollar Princess,"
"Girl in the Train," "The Glad Eye,"
"Fanny's First Play,"
&c.
Address,
Chas. Evans,
Pier and
Entertainments Manager
to District Council,
Town Hall Offices,
Herne Bay.

WANTED, First-class Twice-Nightly Pantomimes, next season,
for various theatres.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-st., Oldham.

LEON VINT'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Hippo., Neath, Feb. 10 (through transfer).
Feb. 10. Feb. 10. Feb. 10.
March 13 (3 nights), 17, 24, on.
Prince of Wales, Nuneaton.
March 24, 31, April 7, 14, on.
Hippo., Rugby, March 24, April 7, 28.
Hippo., Port Talbot, Sept. 1, 7, 22, on.
All communications to James J. Welch, c/o Leon Vint, 142, Long Acre, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for Theatre Royal, Chatham, Feb. 10. Apply, Dan Barnard, Elephant Theatre, S.E.

WANTED, Strong, Twice-nightly Dramatic Attractions.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS,
March 23, April 14 and 28.
PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD,
March 24, April 7 and 21.

Francis Laidler, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, Feb. 3, on, Sensational Dramas, for three and six nights, South Wales. Full bookings, day bills, Gannon, 163, Gloucester-road, Bristol.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."

WANTED, March 10, 17, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."

WANTED, March 10, 17, 24.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, 31, April 21, May 5.
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre, W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for this Phenomenal Attraction,
weeks of March 31 and May 26.
weeks of March 31 and May 26.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal,
Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version Ever Written.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
weeks of Feb. 17 and 24.
weeks of Feb. 17 and 24.
weeks of Feb. 17 and 24.
Once or Twice Nightly.
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

WANTED, Theatres or Halls, Feb. 17, March 17, 24, on.
Big company. Full chorus, Negro specialities.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
10, Iffley-road, Hammersmith, W.

"EAST LYNNE."

WANTED, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3, 17, 24, 31.

J. Pitt Hardacre,
Arundel Hotel, W.C. (letters only).

J. W. CORDINER and HARRY RICHARDSON'S COMPANY.

"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.

WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 17, 24, March 3 and 24.

All communications, J. W. CORDINER.
Jan. 27, OPERA HOUSE, TREHERBERT.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."

WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 3, 10, 31. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
Harold V. Neilson, Kingsway Theatre, W.C.

"BONNIE MARY."

WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10, 24.
Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.

WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.

WANTED, Easter Week, Feb. 24, March 31, May 10.
Aug. 4, 11, 25.
E. L. Garside, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

SEEBOLD'S AND MELROSE'S PANTOMIME, "ALADDIN."
Company of over Forty Artistes, magnificent Scenery and Dresses. Acknowledged by the Press and Managers to be one of the finest Touring Pantomimes of the Season.
WANTED, Feb. 10, North; one or two dates, onwards, Midlands. C. A. Seebold's "Little Red Riding Hood" Pantomime, wanted Feb. 17, to follow Lowestoft. Both companies guaranteed first-class. Refer to managers.
All applications to C. A. Seebold,
Theatre, Worthing.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The Play that is Breaking Records Everywhere.
Now Booking Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, Feb. 17 (to oblige Mr. Redford), March 3 and 24.
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

"THE BLACKGUARD OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT."
Star Cast.
WANTED, April 14, May 5, 12, on. E. Hill-Mitchelson, Alexandra T., Widnes.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Feb. 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
Feb. 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

BRITANNIA THEATRE,
LONDON, N.
Enormous Success
of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Big Theatre,
in Large City,
for next year,
for production of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
One of the
greatest successes
seen for years.
"The Rose Garden."
A Magnificent Stage Picture.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."

Played by a Cast that spells SUCCESS.

Mr. John Worth.	Mr. Edwin Morton.
Mr. Evan Roland.	Mr. Reg. Oldroyd.
Mr. Fred Dalby.	Mr. T. C. Glenville.
Miss Maude Steeples.	Miss Sybil Haughton.
Miss Nancy Newell.	Miss Freda Frederick,

and Miss Doris Brookes.
WANTED, Feb. 3, 10, Feb. 3, 10.
Feb. 3, 10, Feb. 3, 10.
FRED. BULMER,
Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

MADGE CRICHTON IN "ANN."
WANTED, March 24, April 7, 14, May 12, June 2. Haldane Crichton, O.H., Northampton.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."

WANTED, March 31, April 7, 14 (?), 21.
Only Vacant Dates This Spring.
Now Booking Autumn.

"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
Also by Shirley and Landeck.

Wanted, May 19, 26, June 9.
Only Vacant Dates Until Autumn.
Address, for Both Attractions,
J. Forbes Knowles,
County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT" and
"AFTER THE OPERA."
WANTED, Dates, March 24 (?), April 7, 14, Aug. 4, 11 (3 nights). George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James's-street, W.

"ONE LIFE, ONE LOVE."
WANTED, Feb. 17, March 3. Twice nightly preferred. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

The
CAVALIERE F. CASTELLANO
Original
ITALIAN GRAND
OPERA COMPANY.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Midlands or North. Feb. 24, March 24, March 31, April 14.

Fourth Year of Tour in England.

Owing to the return from Italy of Cavaliere F. Castellano, the Tour of this Company will be continued under his personal management.

A number of New Artistes direct from Milan.

Powerful Chorus.

Excellent Orchestra.

All coms. direct to Cavaliere F. Castellano, Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

Along the line the signal ran,
There is no play like "MAN TO MAN."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3, Sept. 1, 15.
Edward Lloyd, Grand, Nottingham.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A Perfect Production. Refer all Theatres Visited.
WANTED, March 10, 24, onwards.
Edward Lloyd, Grand, Nottingham.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10, March 3.
Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN,"
"ROLLICKING RORY."

WANTED, No Vacant Dates till Spring, 1914.

Jan. 27,
Alexandra Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, Theatres, Herbert Fuller's powerful company, "As Your Hair Grows Whiter." Everything carried. Star cast. Wire for Feb. 24 follow T.R., Woolwich (R.); March 3, precede Portsmouth (R.); 17, 24, precede Junction, Manchester (R.); April 14, precede Alex., Hull; April 28, follow Leicester (R.); May 5, precede T.R., Belfast (R.); June 2, follow Q., Dublin (R.); June 16, follow P., Watford (R.); June 23, precede Halifax (R.); July 7, precede Hip., Huddersfield (R.); July 21, 28, precede Met., Glasgow (R.); Aug. 18, follow Dundee (R.), 25, and various onwards. Also "Motherless." Vacant May 19, June 9, and various on. Wire, Fuller, Spanish City, Whitley Bay; next, T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, for the Musical Drama, "The Slave Girl," now breaking records weekly, doing big business, April 28 and Whit (?); Lancs. or Yorks. preferred; also Aug. 4, Sept. 1, 22, 23, and Nov. All coms., T. E. Ward, Alex. T., Pontefract.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, next season, or Variety Halls.
Certainty or Share,
for
Dottridge and Longden's
Famous Pantomimes.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

"HIS LOST CHILD."
WANTED, Feb. 10, 24, various, on.
R. Talbot, 41, Trafalgar-ter., Swansea.

F. MARRIOTT WATSON & JAMES USSHER'S TOURS.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 17, Easter (?).
This week, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.
Next week, King's Theatre, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.
ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.

THE ORIGINAL AND BEST.

A COLUMN OF WINNERS.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

This is without doubt the Finest Spectacular Production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical-Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in up-to-date enterprise.

Managers Delighted.

Will managers please note that, owing to the continued enormous success of "Allah's Orchard," it has been decided to tour this play through the summer. Those with vacant dates kindly communicate for this enormous attraction.

Another great success at St. Helens last week, playing to record business, nearly 4,000 people witnessing show on the Saturday night, and hundreds turned away.

This play is the success of 1913.

The general opinion of every town visited: Nothing like it ever seen here before.

Fast filling the autumn, so communicate early, and so secure the play that everyone is talking about.

A company of talented artistes,
including
Miss Florence Zillwood as Muriel Dugarde,
and
Mr. Arthur Hinton as Prince of Barona.

WANTED, Big Theatres,
March 17,
March 17,

April 14 (?), 28, May 19,
April 14 (?), 28, May 19,

and onwards.
and onwards.

Communications re Dates to
ARTHUR HINTON,
THEATRE ROYAL, OLDHAM.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
March 3 and 10,
March 3 and 10

April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,

May 5.
May 5.

and onwards.
and onwards.

Again this successful play will go right through the summer.

A Few Autumn Dates Vacant.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

Feb. 17,
Feb. 17,

March 17.
March 17,

April 14,
April 14,

May 19,
May 19,

and onwards.
and onwards.

ARTHUR HINTON and LEILA ZILLWOOD
Wish to inform Managers they have secured

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
by the talented Authoress,
Miss Emma Litchfield.

Production,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH, Feb. 24.

Everything travelled, including a Horse.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

March 3,
March 3,

April 14,
April 14,

May 5, May 12, and onwards.
May 5, May 12, and onwards.

NEW PRODUCTION.
NEW PRODUCTION.

Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.

Title will be announced later.

If you see it in a Hinton and Zillwood advert. it is so.

Re Dates.
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
"Holmdene," 3, River Bank, Hampton Court.
Telephone, 1733 Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Wanted Dates,
for the Haunting
"CINGALEE."
Whit Week! Whit Week!!
Whit Week!!! Open.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"ANN."
The latest Criterion success,
with
Miss MADGE CRICHTON
in the Title-rôle.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
or
Haldane Crichton, Opera House, Northampton.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
or, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
The most vivid Drama ever written.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"TURKISH DELIGHT;
or, A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT."
By Percy Ford.
A Musical Comedy Sketch in 2 Scenes

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Dates, Dates,

DATES
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for

GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
PENULTIMATE TOUR OF THE
HAUNTING
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."

FROM DALY'S THEATRE,

THE BRIGHTEST AND BEST OF ALL OUR MUSICAL COMEDIES,
THE HAUNTING
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."

The Piece will be Completed Re-dressed, and will be sent out with Entirely New Scenery and Properties.

THE HAUNTING
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."

A New Plant of Printing has been specially laid down for this Tour, which will be the most memorable in the annals of this famous piece.

THE HAUNTING
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."

Contracts are now being signed with a Strong, Attractive Cast of well-known Artistes.

THE HAUNTING
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."

The high vocal tone obtained during the last tour will not only be maintained, but considerably enhanced.

THE HAUNTING
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."
"CINGALEE."

A COMPANY OF FORTY ARTISTES.

GORE OUSELEY,
50, Rupert-street, London, W.,
Manager, E. P. Morgan.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
Wire, "Ouseley, London."

WANTED, DATES, DATES.

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LONDON SUBURBS,
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LONDON SUBURBS,

LANCASHIRE,
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LANCASHIRE,
LANCASHIRE.

YORKSHIRE or MIDLANDS,
YORKSHIRE or MIDLANDS,
YORKSHIRE or MIDLANDS,
YORKSHIRE or MIDLANDS,
YORKSHIRE or MIDLANDS,
for
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S

TWICE NIGHTLY ATTRACTIONS.
TWICE NIGHTLY ATTRACTIONS.
TWICE NIGHTLY ATTRACTIONS.
TWICE NIGHTLY ATTRACTIONS.
TWICE NIGHTLY ATTRACTIONS.

"GOLD DIGGERS."
"GOLD DIGGERS."
"GOLD DIGGERS."
"GOLD DIGGERS."
"GOLD DIGGERS."

In Six Scenes.

An Honest, Exhiliarating,
COMEDY DRAMA
COMEDY DRAMA
COMEDY DRAMA
COMEDY DRAMA
COMEDY DRAMA

of Western Life.

Splendidly Cast,
Mounted,
and
Advertised.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, London, W.
Manager, E. P. Morgan.
'Phone, Regent 2286. Wires, "Ouseley, London."

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.

South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.
South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.
South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.

Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.

This play has broken all records for business at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
Also at other theatres.

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.

Beautiful Uniforms, &c.

Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.
Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.
Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.

Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.

Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester,
With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.

Title to be known later.

Another new play in active preparation.

Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL,
WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant March 17, 31.
Vacant March 17, 31.
Vacant March 17, 31.

Few Autumn.
Few Autumn.
Few Autumn.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Two companies on the road of this great success.

Both equal.

North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.

South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.

Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.

Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.

Write for same to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."

WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls,
Feb. 24, March 10, 31.
Feb. 24, March 10, 31.
Feb. 24, March 10, 31.

An instantaneous success,
An instantaneous success,
Hippodrome, Stockton, and T.R., Leicester.
Hippodrome, Stockton, and T.R., Leicester.

Record business.
Record business.
Undoubtedly the biggest spectacular show touring.
Over 50 people staged.
Wire immediately for Feb. 24, March 10, 31.
Jas. Bell,
T.R., Darlington.

THE GREAT COMEDY TWICE-NIGHTLY SUCCESS OF THE YEAR.
(Plays the Full Bill.)
Francis Laidler's Magnificent Production,
"THE PRIDE OF BYZANTIA."
One long laugh from the rise of the curtain to the fall. Striking plant of full coloured pictorial printing (11 kinds).
Brilliant Star Company.
Strong Combination of Comedians.
Full London Chorus. Seven Gorgeous Scenes.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
March 3.
March 3.
March 3.
March 3.
Large Theatre or Variety Theatre.
Large Theatre or Variety Theatre.
Twice Nightly Preferred.
Twice Nightly Preferred.
Francis Laidler, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

"THE GIRL IN THE TRAIN."
"THE GIRL IN THE TRAIN."
"THE GIRL IN THE TRAIN."
WANTED, first-class Theatre, for March 10.
Also a few Autumn dates.
Herbert Ralland, 32, Lisle-street, W.C.

WANTED, Theatre or Hall,
Feb. 3 and 10, South,
for high-class Repertoire.
Aubrey Wilson, Post Office, Redhill.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.

"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

WANTED, Feb. 24, 24, 24,
March 10, 10, 10,
Easter, Easter, Easter,
for this great Play. The finest mounted, dressed, and played Drama on the road. Full coloured printing and unique advertising.

Refer any Manager visited.

This, Grand, Nelson.
Next, ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

"A TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
The famous Strand Theatre Musical Comedy.
WANTED, April 21, April 21, April 21,
Aug. 4, 18, Sept. 8, once or twice nightly.
Harold Wagner, Palace Theatre, Porth.

"BONNIE MARY."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10, Feb. 24
Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace
Dewsbury.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."

WANTED, Feb. 3, possibly Feb. 10 also.

Loie Esmond, Pier Pavilion, Lytham.
Jan. 27, Hippodrome, Langley Moor.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
Latest American Production,
"THE ROUND UP."
The real thing in cowboy melodrama.
Enormous success as a twice-nightly attraction.

WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls for the following dates:—
Feb. 24,
March 10 and 24 (?),
April 28, May 5 and 12 (?),
Aug. 4, and various onwards.
A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried, a clear stage only required.

Wire for Feb. 24,
Geo. E. Carleton,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" and
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Feb. 17, March 24, 31, April 7.
Hamilton Steyart. Jan. 20, Winter Gardens, New Brighton (two weeks).

"THE WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE."
WANTED, Feb. 17 (between London and Merthyr), March 17, 24 (North), April 21, 28, May 5, 12. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

MR AND MRS. WILSON BENGE'S CO.
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, March 17 and Easter week, to follow T.R., Swansea, April 7, 14, 21. Bookings: Met. and Osborne, Manchester; Hippodrome, Preston; Hip., Salford, Woolwich, Stratford, South Shields; Pal., Newcastle; Grand, Nottingham; Glasgow, &c. Letters, Theatre Royal, Swansea.

"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
WANTED, Feb. 3, Wire.
Wanted, Feb. 10 (precede Worthing).
Wanted, Feb. 20 (3 nights, South).
W. T. Ivory,
Olympia Theatre, Coalville.

"ONE LIFE, ONE LOVE."
WANTED, Feb. 17, March 3. Twice nightly preferred. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

"SILVER KING" CO.
POLINI AND MELFORD.
WANTED, Sept. 29, Oct. 13, 20, and Nov. 3; now booking spring, 1914. Twice nightly if required. Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
Never was a play more popular.—"The Times."
WANTED, Easter, March 31, April 28, and Whit. Herbert Leonard, this, Hippo., Bilston; next, Hippo., Wednesbury.

The Great Farcical Success,
"THE AMAZONS,"
by Arthur Pinero.
From the Duke of York's Theatre, London.
WANTED, Feb. 17, through transfer to oblige, March 31 (3), May 5, and July 28, on.
Address, Alfred Gray. Jan. 27, New, Cambridge, and Royal, Leamington.

"10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 14, 21, and Whit., to follow Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Bangor, Gloucester, Dublin, and precede Aston, Smethwick, Canning Town, Hammersmith, Elephant, &c.
Horace Stanley, Hippo., Bilston.

THE CLAYMORE MINSTRELS.
WANTED, March 10, on, with exceptions, Theatres, Music Halls, Picture Palaces, Pier Pav.s; share or guarantee. Coms., Comber and Roma. Jan. 27, Grand, Oldham; Feb. 4, Lyceum, Sheffield.

THEATRES WANTED.

C. VERNON PROCTOR'S Company in
"WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES,"
By Special Arrangement with
Mr. Lionel Rignold.

Once or Twice Nightly.
Funnier than a Pantomime.

Grand Theatre, Plymouth,
Jan. 18, 1913.

DEAR MR. PROCTOR,—I congratulate you heartily on the excellence of your show. The piece is indeed "funnier than a pantomime," and my house has rung with laughter during the week.
The company are first-class and the whole thing pleasing.
Your own performance is delightful, and you keep the ball rolling merrily.
With very best wishes,
Yours faithfully,
J. LANGDON LEE.

For genuine, hearty laughter a more entertaining piece could not be devised, and its presentation by refined artistes enhances the pleasure derived from the production. . . It is indeed an enjoyable performance, an entertainment of ceaseless and genuine humour.—"Western Morning News," Jan. 14, 1913.
Mr. Lee is fortunate in having secured Mr. C. Vernon Proctor's London company, which kept the audience in one long roar of laughter.—"Western Mercury," Jan. 14, 1913.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, for The Finest Twice-Nightly Attraction Touring.
Only vacancies till June, March 3, 4, 5, 10 (?), April 3, 4, 5, Easter and Whit. Wanted Theatres or Music Halls, shares or certainty, shares preferred. Also good seaside dates, Summer and Autumn.
C. Vernon Proctor, T.R., Darlington

Harry Bristow and May Forde's
"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, Good Theatres, Feb. 17, March 3, on, with exceptions. Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"SIGN OF THE CROSS."

WANTED, Wanted March 3.
South or Suburbs.
McNeill en route; or Lyric Theatre, W.

WANTED, Theatres, Picture Palaces, &c., for "Cinderella," Feb. 3, 10, onwards. A very pretty pantomime. Wire or write, Mackenzie, Public Hall, Chippenham, Wilts, till Sunday; after, Hippo., Pontycymmer, S. Wales.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres, March 17 (Midlands or North).

April 14 (?) and May 26 (?).

Address,
Cecil Barth, The Little Theatre, London, W.C.

"MRS. DANE'S DEFENCE."
"THE LIARS."
"JOSEPH ENTANGLED."
By Henry Arthur Jones.

WANTED, first-class Theatres, April 7, 14, 21, and Whit. Now booking seaside dates for summer months. Miss Mabel Mannering, and West End cast.
Millar Anderson, Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.C.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10, March 3. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Theatres, Pier Pavilions, &c., for Wellesley Lynn's unique entertainment of mirthful, mystical, and musical recitals; six first-class artistes; several big drawing novelties. Manager, 119, Fielding-road, Bedford Park, W.

Now that the Minstrels are coming back, Proprietors and Managers could not do better than book
W. J. CHURCHILL'S
MINSTRELS,
Twenty in Number.

WANTED, Known, First Vacant Date Oct. 13, 1913.
Everything up to date.
Splendid Picture Printing by Stafford and Co.
I can play these Minstrels alone, or with my own single turn.
One or Two Houses a Night.
All letters to Billy (W. J.) Churchill, Llandudno.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Young Lady, to play in sketch; able to do acrobatic dancing, speak a few lines, and sing a little; long engagement for suitable person; must be respectable and refined; willing to learn; age between 16 and 20. Apply, Box 4,231, "The Era."

KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, good Heavy Man, for Twice Nightly Stock Season, extending through Summer; good Heavy Man, must dress well; also Two Responsible Gents., one to assist management. Photos. (imperative), full particulars, with last three references, next three weeks' addresses, and absolute lowest terms, to John B. Shinton, 19, Laura-st., Sunderland.

WANTED, Tall Juvenile Gentleman, for "Ready Money"; photo., terms, height, references. Mark Blow, Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

WANTED, Gentleman for Levison. Photos. and previous experience (when not personally known) to J. Pitt-Hardacre, c/o "The Era."

FORBES RUSSELL'S "PRISONER OF ZENDA."
WANTED, Character Actor; small parts; those in neighbourhood preferred. Photos, lowest terms, G. Alexander, Royal, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Strong Character Man, combine acting management; also Good Sailor Comedian (preferred tall). Address, Herbert Leonard. This, Hip., Bilston. Next, Hip., Wednesbury.

WANTED, for Sketch, First-class Juvenile Gentleman; light comedy; must be able to produce; middle-aged Aristocratic Heavy Woman; Responsible Gentleman, tall. Write particulars, lowest terms, trial week London, tour if suitable, Box 4,245, "The Era."

WANTED, to rehearse immediately, for music hall Sketch, good aristocratic gentleman (about 5ft. 9in.), and robust Character Actor (stout build, about 5ft. 7in.). Call, 6 o'clock, Saturday evening, the Rifleman, Kennington Park-road.

WANTED, first-class Comedian and Dances, and a comedian for sound party, touring, April to October. Box No. 4,254, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Character Actor, for Sir Jabez Grinlay, "Diana of Dobson's," 15 weeks' tour. H. V. Neilson, Nordrach-on-Mendip, Blagdon, Somerset.

WANTED, Heavy Character for Sketch; also pretty Juvenile Lady. Apply, Rehearsal Room, Bedford Head Hotel, between 3 and 4.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, at once, Good Light Comedian (young); must be first-class; good salary.
Apply, Will Collins and Co.,
Breadmead House, Panton-street, W.

WANTED, for Stock, Leading Men, S.M., Responsibles, Turns, Child Actress, Pianist, &c.; lowest terms, particulars; rehearse once. Stewart, Palace, Dover.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Known, a recognised Actor-Manager has Vacancy for amateur lady and gentleman, to understudy and play small parts in tour of West End comedy; thorough tuition given in return for small premium. Apply, Box 4,230, "The Era."

WANTED, Clever Low Comedian, for Sketch. Good terms to good performer. Fullest detail to Chas. Cardow, Empire Theatre, Preston.

WANTED, Amateurs with talent requiring experience in Small Parts and Understudies in West-End comedies, can obtain immediate employment by communicating with Box 4,241, "The Era."

WANTED, Amateur Lady and Gentleman for small parts, for West End, London. Success at present on long tour; small premium, paid back in salary. Box 4,256, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, Gentlemen Amateurs, of good appearance,
to play small parts in first-class touring company. Small salaries.
Please call,
62, Avenue-road, Regent's-Park.

WANTED, Amateur Lady and Gent, first Repertoire company; excellent opening for beginner; salary given; thorough tuition, refs. given; long engagement. Address full particulars, A. M. Johnson, Station-road, Ilminster, Somerset.

GORE OUSELEY'S PRODUCTIONS.

WANTED, full Chorus; rehearse Jan. 27; open Feb. 3, for London.
50, Rupert-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Miss Lilli Gale, or Stafford (Transvaal and Bristol), who was in Scotland winter 1907-8, subsequently in "The Maid and the Motor Man" Co., to receive news to her advantage. This lady probably returned to Johannesburg 1908. Will any person having slightest clue to her present whereabouts, or who was ever acquainted with her, kindly take any possible steps to notify her, and write immediately to Box 4,212, "The Era?"

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED for Spring Tour, "Babes in the Wood," dashing Principal Boy, Principal Girl; pair comedians for Ruffians, Second Boy and Girl, smart Troupe of Dancers, and Chorus Ladies; rehearse next week. Lowest terms, &c., to Fred Granville, to-day Hippodrome, Altrincham; next, Picturedrome, Ilkeston.

WANTED, good singing Prin. Boy, good voice; Comedian for Dame, Soft Sammy; also Quartette of Lady Dancers; open Monday, Feb. 3, not less than three or four weeks. Terms, and where can be seen working, Gar Kiddie, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Two Chorus Ladies; must be young and refined; to open Monday, at Opera House, Bury. Apply (to-day), John Walters, County Theatre, Bangor; after Bury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Experienced Stage Manager, to combine billing; used to twice-nightly variety; must be sober; permanency if suitable. State all particulars, salary, in first letter, Hamilton and Hughes, Co-op. Hall, Widnes.

WANTED, good Shakespearean Producer to Coach Amateurs in "Henry V." and "Comedy of Errors"; lowest terms; full particulars. Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator; one able to look after small gas engine. Address, Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, first-class all-round Mechanic; especially one who can work equally as well on wood as with metals; must be at liberty to travel anywhere; only those who can furnish highest references need apply. Full particulars in first letter and salary expected. Box 4,257, "The Era."

STAFF.

WANTED, two Men to parade,
Oakes,
Playhouse, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, James S. Charters, Scenic Artist, is open to accept offers for Stage Management and Scenic Artist in Theatre, Music Hall, or Picture Palace; used to twice-nightly programme; Variety or Dramas; 20 years' experience; best refs.; life abstainer. Read Press notice: The scenery and effects are very good. It may be added that a new scene (act drop), quite a work of art, is being used this week. It has been painted by Mr. James S. Charters, the stage manager, and is extremely well done.—"Goole Times." Write or wire, James S. Charters, S.M., 21, North-street, Goole, Yorks.

WANTED, Management of Picture Theatre; know the business from top to bottom; 16 years' experience; late lessee Pavilion Theatre, Paignton; old head on young shoulders. H. J. Hannaford, 57, New King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Manager, ten years one situation, Engagement for Summer; seaside resident preferred. Box 4,251, "The Era."

WANTED, Post as Manager, music hall or picture house, or producer of productions, 20 years' experience manager and stage-management. Appearance and ability, all that is necessary. Wallace, Post Office, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Post as Acting-Manager or Assistant; experienced, typist.
Box 4,226, "The Era."

WANTED, Berth, as Gymnastic Instructor; Physical Culture, Fencing, Boxing, Massage, and Medical Electricity; certified. A. Palmer, 49, Holland-rd., Brixton, S.W. Late Instructor, Sandow's.

WANTED, Engagement by Carpenter; practical bench hand; no tours. Address, Carpenter, 64, Dongola-road, Philip-lane, London, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

ROYAL HIPPODROME, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musical-Director (Pianist), to combine First Violin when required; must be well versed in drama, musical comedy, &c.; to open Feb. 10. Apply, with fullest particulars, Frank E. Burdett, Manager.

WANTED, Conductor-Violin, to open Monday; must have up-to-date repertoire; used to drama and variety; age, refs., lowest terms, Sam Duckworth, E.T., Tonypandy.

WANTED, for London, E., and Scotland, Piano Con., Violin, Clarinet, 'Cello, and Bass Players; 5½ hours daily; high-class pictures. Refs. and terms. Norman Saenton, 156, Roseberyavenue, Manor Park, E.

WANTED, at once, a first-class Leader; high-class work only. Apply, with lowest terms and refs., Conductor, Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

NEW HIPPODROME, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, First-class and reliable Leader, 'Cello, Viola, Clarinet, Bass, Drums, and Flautist. Write, lowest terms and references, to C. Sounes, Empire, Kingston.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, reliable and experienced First Violin; open immediately. State age, lowest salary, last two references. Permanency to competent man.
Alfred Manners, as above.

BOSTOCK'S CIRCUIT.
WANTED, First Violin; to open Feb. 3; permanency. State age, terms, and refs. Leslie Lewis, M.-D., Hippo., Ipswich.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, for Small Town in Canada. Good opportunity to see this country. Passage paid. Send photo, age, and experience. For particulars write to Band Leader, Port Alberni, Vancouver Island, B.C., Canada.

WANTED, good First and Second Violinists, also good Pianist-Organist, for West End Cinematograph Theatre; must be first-class players and have had previous experience of Orchestral work. Apply, Bayswater Cinematograph Theatre, Queen's-road, W., on Saturday, 11.30 a.m.

WANTED, First-class Male Violinist; also Double Bass, for Small Orchestra in Picture House, Belfast. Hours, 3 to 5, and 7 to 10.30. Sundays excepted. Highest standard of music. Reply, stating salary required, Box 4,243, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, first-class Violin, picture house, twice nightly; permanent; open immediately. G. A. Boyes, Musical-Director, Coliseum, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Second Violin, Bass, and Flute, for one week, commencing Feb. 10. Terms, age, and refs., to Bingley, 1, Cavendish-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 27, Solo Cornet, Double Drummer, Solo Horn, military band, concert work; must be good musicians; evenings only. Wire lowest terms for two weeks, certain, probably longer, summer eng. follows, to Sidney Jones, 6, Harrowdene-road, Knowle, Bristol.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Cornet Player; steady; permanency to suitable man; open Feb. 3. Terms, age, refs., Wm. H. Dobing, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, Good Solo Clarinet; permanency for competent and Steady man.
Bandmaster, Town Band, Penzance.

WANTED, for the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra, to commence at Easter, Principal Clarinet and Principal Viola; permanent engagements. No Sunday work. Also for the Municipal Military Band for the Summer Season of eighteen weeks, Solo Cornet. Must be first-class. Terms and refs. to Mr. Dan Godfrey, Musical Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, for Permanent Staff, Worcestershire Regiment, B flat Clarinet Player; ex-soldier under 30 could re-enlist to complete for pension. Apply, Sergt. Martin, Norton Barracks, Worcester.

WANTED, Good Clarinet or Horn Player as an attendant in a County Asylum.
Salary commencing £35, increasing to £49, all found; single man.
Apply, with copies of testimonials,
W. Grainger, Co. Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, immediately, good Bass, also 'Cello, for first-class Pic. Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne; permanency; age, refs., &c. Conductor, 7, Denmark-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Lady 'Cellist. Apply by letter, Manager, Trafalgar Cinema, Trafalgar-rd., East Greenwich.

WANTED, First-class Male 'Cellist, for Small Orchestra, in Picture House, Belfast. Hours, 3 to 5, and 7 to 10.30. Sundays excepted. Highest standard of music. Reply, stating salary required, Box 4,242, "The Era."

WANTED, open Monday, 'Cello or Bass Player; 'Cello preferred; permanency if suitable; lowest terms, age, references. Conductor, Theatre Royal, Pontypool.

HIPPODROME, NOTTINGHAM.
WANTED, First-class 'Cello Player; open Feb. 3. Full particulars, age, reference, and salary required to Albert C. Duncan, Manager.

WANTED, 'Cello, for amateur orchestra, London; clerical or other employment found. Stage age and qualifications to
Box No. 4,234, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, capable Viola Player.
Wire terms to
H. E. Loseby, H.M. Theatre, Dundee.

NEW HIPPODROME, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, First-class Viola, 'Cello, and Double Bass. Apply, with lowest terms and latest references, to
C. SOUNES, Empire, Kingston.

WANTED, at once, for Orchestra, Experienced Harmonium Player, combine Piano, for Cinema (country); must have knowledge of Wagner and Tavan. Good terms. Permanency. Box 4,225, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Proprietor important London Cinema desires to get in touch with really clever English pianist of experience; an artist of sympathetic temperament capable of faithfully interpreting pictures of every description; must have extensive repertoire, be brilliant, memorise, and extemporise or read at sight as required; permanent good engagement right individual; grand piano and beautiful pipe organ installed. Apply, Box 4,164, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Pianist, for Band of Crack Cavalry Regiment, stationed in England. An excellent opportunity for a capable young man to become acquainted with military music. Apply, No. 457, Hawkes and Son, Denman-street Piccadilly Circus, W.

THEATRE ROYAL, JARROW.
WANTED, Pianist, to combine 2nd Violin or Viola; comfortable and permanent engagement to a suitable applicant. Apply, stating refs. and lowest terms, to Hugh Robertson, T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, good Pianist and 'Cellist, to join Vocalist and Violinist for high-class Music Hall Act, &c.; rehearse immediately. Box 4,253, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Drummer, with Effects, also good Trombone; one house nightly; matinée Saturday; good job to right men. Apply, with lowest terms, Musical Director, 25, Whitechapel-rd., E.

WANTED, Drummer, with Tympanis.
Apply, Musical-Director,
Lyceum Theatre,
Sheffield.

WANTED, a First-class Double Drummer, and Tympanist, Glockenspiel and Xylophone absolutely essential; own instruments; considerable orchestral experience; good engagement to capable and reliable man. Apply, Box 4,246, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

BURGH OF ROTHESAY.
ESPLANADE GARDENS.

WANTED, for the Burgh of Rothesay, for Season 1913,
Military Band of 17,
or, alternatively, of 20 Performers,
including in each case Conductor.

Two performances daily.

Offers, specifying instruments, must be sent to my office not later than 12 o'clock noon on Monday, Feb. 3, 1913.
ROBERT D. WHYTE,
Town Clerk.
Rothesay,
Jan. 17, 1913.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.

WANTED, First-class Orchestra, of eight performers.

Apply, Winter Gardens, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contra Bassists for Mediterranean Liners. Applicants state age, experience, and give names and addresses of two persons in good positions for references of personal character.
Apply, Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, Music Directors, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Professional Men to Join the Nat. Fed. of Professional Musicians for business purposes and mutual aid. 39, Gerrard-st., London, W. 'Phone, 1273 Regent.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Mr. E. T. De Banzie, Mus.-Dir. and Conductor.
On tour with the great Lalla Selbini. Immediate offers invited for Resident-Conductor or Tour, Author, Composer, and Producer.
This week, Tivoli, Hull.
Next, T., Darlington.

WANTED, Known, first-class Musical-Director; smart, steady, and reliable; excellent references and Press notices, desires change in playhouse, music hall, or first-class picture house with full orchestra; extensive modern repertoire; only first-class permanent appointment entertained. Offers to Box 4,252, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Leader, with Circus, for tenting season in Gt. Britain or Continent; experienced, and extensive repertoire. Address, Matt Corbett, 41, North-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, Wanted, Engagement, First Violin or Viola.
Nicholls, 20, West Caroline-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Violin; experienced, reliable; terms reasonable. F. H. D., 52, Oswin-street, St. George's-road, Southwark, London.

WANTED, Engagement, exper. Cornetist; any bus., young, steady, can commence Monday; London preferred.
Angel, 47, Stopford-rd., West Ham, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, 1st Clarinet; combine 2nd violin; any business; London or provinces; good refs. Sweetman, 232, Carr-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarinet, or would deputise; good refs.
89, Elmhurst-mans., Edgeley-rd., Clapham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clar.; any business; sober and reliable; good ref.
Box 4,237, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Double Bass at liberty Feb. and early part of March. Pictures, Symphony Concerts, &c. J., 6, Arthur-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement (permanent); steady and reliable.
F. R., 59, Blackfriars-road, S.E.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, good, steady and reliable, thoroughly experienced, Summer Engagement; any business; good refs. Greaves, 'Cello, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by young, experienced Flautist; Liverpool or Manchester preferred; soloist, and well up in any business; excellent refs.
Apply, Box 4,239, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist and Piccolo Soloist; thoroughly experienced; any business; reliable, and abstainer. Rudall Carte's instruments. Box 4,248, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Albert Wilson; brilliant orchestral pianist and accompanist; organist if required; London only. 285a, Edgware-road, London, W.

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dorothea Vincent's celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras; three to forty performers; smart uniform. 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Engagement by high-class Trio (piano, violin, 'cello); soloists; just concluding engagement leading West End theatre; extensive repertoire. Box 4,227, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

CONNOR'S GRAND CIRCUS,
Douglas, Isle of Man.
Proprietor and Manager, Fred J. Connor.
WANTED, for the forthcoming summer season, commencing early in July, Talent of every description, good tumbling Agoustes, &c., Acrobatic and other troupes.
Apply,
Fred J. Connor,
Royal Italian Circus, Palladium, Hull,
or Circus, Douglas, Isle of Man.

THE AUSTRALIAN CIRCUS CO.
WANTED, Riders, Gentleman and Lady, with own horses; also Acts suitable for the ring. Will good circus family write in? Manager, Walsall Wood, Staffs.

WANTED, Useful Circus Artistes, all lines; Bandsmen; commence tenting season, March 17; small circus; money low, but sure. Phinas and Aida. Per., 27, Whatmough-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, at once, Single Young Man; good knockabout, gymnastic tumbler.
Full particulars, age, height, weight, lowest salary, Box 4,132, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus, Agricultural Hall, London.
THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS
have made the greatest success ever known at the above circus, appearing in six great acts daily.
THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS.
Complimented by all the circus proprietors that have visited the hall this season.
THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS.
The most up-to-date circus riders ever seen in a circus ring.
THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS
Will be at Liberty Feb. 17. No circus complete without
THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS.
Add., Grand Circus, Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Rose Mayon, Gymnast, Dancing, Aerial Wire, and Trapeze Artist, grace and talent, lib. summer season; two or three acts; also W. Duffy, Leader or Solo Cornet. Perm., c/o Mrs. Manchister, 2, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Jean Steckel, Rider (own horse); Four Kels, Pot-pourri Speciality (Chinese characters); vac., summer season. Perm., 19, Kaye-street, Bradford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
For Immediate and
Future Dates,
STAR COMEDIANS,
BIG SPECIALITIES,
BIG SPECIALITIES,
BIG COMEDY ACTS.
Send Full List of Bookings,
Terms, &c.,
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road,
Manchester.

GLASGOW PANOPTICON AND IBROX PALACE.
WANTED, for the above hall, strong and attractive Specialities, Good Comediennes, Sisters, Comedians, &c. Full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, if any, to
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Star Top Liners.
Also Artistes All Lines if Original,
Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, onwards.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195.
Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Novelties, also Good Turns of Every Description, Feb. 3 and onwards. Send full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, &c., to 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

Telegrams, "Cockney, Glasgow."

Telephone, 1075 Charing Cross.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for Feb. 3, Startling and Sensational Novelties, Big Dramatic and Pantomimical Sketches, Spectacular Productions of every description, Big Comedy Numbers, and anything capable of Topping Bill. Also First-class Acts of every description for Feb. 10 and 24, March 10, 17, onward. Address, with lowest terms and samples of printing (if any), to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Feb 3, and onwards,
Novelties all lines.

Can give 12 weeks to suitable acts for South Wales.

Also big Tops and Featuring Acts, all lines,
for leading provincial music halls.

Full list bookings, lowest terms, photos., &c., essential.

Please keep me posted.
Will Lund,
197, Edge-lane, Liverpool.
'Phone: 682 Royal.
Tel. add.: "Comedy, Liverpool."

THE PHŒNIX THEATRE.
HILLSBOROUGH, SHEFFIELD.

THE PALACE CLOWN,
near Chesterfield.

WANTED, Acts, of all descriptions, to communicate, re the above, also over 50 other Music Halls and Picture Palaces, with the Sole Booking Agents,
The Fred Reynolds Agency.

Sylvester's Gala Season, Whitsuntide to end of August, 1913, Licensed by L.C.C. Telephone No., Brixton, 2064.

WANTED, Novelties of every description for above. State absolute lowest per day. Return rail fares paid from London terminus. Lithos, permanent address, to 271, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY.
35, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Acts of Standing.
Good "possibles" always entertained.
Acts, all lines, immediate and future dates.
Terms (lowest first letter), bookings, and pictorials.

WANTED, Hippodrome, Wisbech, immediate and later dates; moderate-priced doubles doing singles, and speciality acts; stage opening 21 x 18 x 21ft.; state lowest terms first letter. Co-partnership Agency, Ltd., 34, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Artistes, all lines.
Joe Davies, 63, Silver-arcade,
Leicester, and Birmingham.

WANTED, Feb. 3, onwards, Specialities and Sensational Attractions. Full bookings imperative. Gannon, 163, Gloucester-road, Bristol. Adeline Yohle, wire address.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, also Variety Acts of every description. Immediate and future dates, list of bookings, lithos., and rock bottom price, to Drury and Aldridge, Variety Agents, 55, Cowcaddens-street, Glasgow (near Pavilion). 'Phone 375 Douglas.

WANTED, for Easter, Whitsun, June 16, and later, Big Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Animal Acts, Novelties. T. Wood, Caterer, Whitehall-rd., Bristol.

WANTED, for high-class West-End Restaurant,
Rag-time Entertainers,
for supper only.
Full particulars, terms, &c., to
Box 2,517, Willing's, 125, Strand, W.C.

VICTORIA PIER, BLACKPOOL

WANTED, for July and August, Marionette and Spectacular Shows. State terms for one or two weeks.

WANTED, one or two smart Girls under 16; knowledge of skating or cycling. Apply by letter, Jas. E. Donegan, Manager, Dunedin Troupe, 32, Brixton-road, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WILL COLLINS AND COMPANY.

WANTED, Big Star Acts, Big Comedy Acts, Big Speciality Acts, Big Comedy Sketches.

Salary or sharing,
for the
Hippodrome, Exeter.

Will Collins and Company,
Broadmead House,
Panton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Boy Conjurer or Vent.; travel villages, picture entertainment; salary 15s. wee. Jy. Stanton, Reading-room, Thornton Rust, Aysgarth, Yorks.

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.

WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Known, Artistes please note that all Contracts signed by Mr. Frank Rabey for the Pavilion Theatre, Hetton-le-Hole, for Feb. 10 and onwards are null and void owing to change of management. Artistes wishing to be re-engaged may write in. R. Barton, Proprietor.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next (only vacancy),
CARTER LIVESEY,
in "An Amateur Anarchist."
A 25 Minutes' Roar. Top of Bill.

Wire, Grand, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, highly-trained Soprano, powerful voice, desires Cinema Engagements in London; would give week's trial free. Box 4,244, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Agents to See my Act at the Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, on Monday, 27th inst., at 9.45 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 1, at 8 p.m. Charles Crayford, "The Kentish Mystic." This, Star Palace, Tonbridge.

WANTED, Feb. 3 and 10,
THEO MAURITUS,

The Famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker.
Victoria, Chesterfield.

Neyt. Pavilion, Grange Villa, Durham.

WANTED, Feb. 3, 10, by Amandus; also Mlle. Rosina; two acts; see cards. Wire, The Gem, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, through disappointment, Jock McIver, the Scottish Comedian. Wire, Empire, Taunton, Somerset.

WANTED, Monday Next, Bu-Val, The Happy Dutchman (Concertina).

Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Monday next, by Dan Selby, Character Comedian Till Saturday, 16, Chapel-street, Nuneaton; after, 170, Elmhurst-Mansions, Edgeley-road, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Known, Eddie Wells, Great Club Juggler and Hoop Manipulator. Vacant, Jan. 27 and Feb. 3. Wire, Empress, Padiham. After Saturday, 1, Henry-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, at liberty, Frederick the Great, the world's biggest giant, age 19, height nearly 8ft., a novel, refined, and attractive show. Pictures, exhibitions, or carnivals. Big success everywhere, or would take halls on shares. W. Wright, Zoo Buildings, Glasgow.

WANTED, Feb. 17, March 10, onward, Rohde and Roche. The Chameleon, the Artist, and IT. Jan. 27, Empire, Cambridge. See "Performer."

WANTED, to follow our big success, Panto., T.R., Cardiff. Vac., Monday, Jan. 27, also Feb. 3, 17, and later, The Dunvilles. Great Spectacular, Comedy, Musical, Vocal, Dance, and Conversational Star Speciality. Thanking Mr. Arthur Carlton for presents on our benefit, and date Worcester at big increase. Also Moss' Empires for communications. Address, T.R., Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Thorpe and Coe, presenting their high-class Comedy Playlets, "My Burglar" and "The 1st of the 4th," vacant, Feb. 17 and March 17; booked by Moss' Empires, Oswald Stoll, and Variety Theatres Controlling Co. till 1917. Jan. 27, E., Stratford, or Vaudeville Club, W.C.

WANTED, by Gladys and Alber, in Comedy Act, introducing singing, dancing, patter, and the cleverest tumbling before the public. This week, success, Empire, Rochdale; next, Hippo., Long Eaton. A few vacancies prior to sailing for Africa. Vacant, Feb. 3, March 3, 17.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Proprietors, the Lashmars have successfully produced their New Act, and in future will be known as Keith and Karol. Picturedrome, Fraserburgh.

Feb. 3 and 24. Feb. 3 and 24.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the Incomparable Ventriloquist; also Gladys Wells, England's Premier Chorus, Vocalist. Electric, Heaton. Mon., Victoria T., Chopwell, Durham.

WANTED, Monday, by the Tissots; originators of living marionettes and famous cat duet. Wire, Hippo., Lowestoft; or, 47, Trafalgar-street.

WANTED, Jan. 27 (one week), by ATLAS AND THE BEAUTIFUL VULCANA,
Troupe of Society Athletes. World's Greatest Athletic Artistes. One, two, or three turns.

Salary and shares.

Wire, Pal., Glanamman (Carm.).

WANTED, by Louise and Bruno Pitrot, the Equilibristic Wonder, originators of the mobil bar, Continental novelty act, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 24, March 3, and 17, onwards. Last week, bottom at the Empire, Belfast. Read:—"The Northern Whig," Jan. 14, says: Pitrot and Louise enjoy a high reputation as equilibrists, and indeed their feats are along the line which they have made their own. In the course of a performance which fairly takes one's breath away, considerable risks are taken, but there is never a hitch from start to finish. Both performers are abreast of their work, and seem to be at ease while balancing on a number of chairs and tables or sustaining their equilibrium on a rolling bar. If you want something out of the ordinary, wire, Pitrot, Salisbury Palace, Leek, or Field's, Commercial Hotel, High-street, Leek.

WANTED, Jan. 27, by Li Chang Hi and Ta Mao, the great Chinese magicians. Wire, King's Hall, Wednesbury. Six-sheet lithos.

WANTED, Known, Peter Adair; over 70; gets younger; bottled daily; samples power and dewar; Peter's no teetotaller; his 1,000 mile walks require endurance. Peter spells endurance—en Dewar-ance.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, few immediate dates for one of the most Up-to-date, Genuine, Clean, Brilliant, Dashing Animal Acts ever seen. This is not bluff.

The proof of the pudding is eating, so is an Act with Drawing Powers.

If this Act does not prove a Big Draw I will forfeit salary.
The Reliable.
Chard's Dogs,
48, Boston-street, Hulme,
Manchester.

WANTED, Dates, Clunn Lewis's Marionettes; record success, Children's Welfare Exhibition, Olympia; 51 shows in 11 days. 2, Offley-rd., Brixton, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Lady Palmist.
PICKARD'S Exhibition,
Trongate,
Glasgow.

WANTED, Practical Workmen, to Pull Down and Rebuild Scenic Railway and Joy Wheel.

Write, Box 4,236, "The Era."

WANTED, Novelties at once, on half shares, or will let on rental; also would like to hear from a family able to manage stage, produce sketches, ghost illusions, &c. This would be a good opening for a clever family. This hall is 86ft. long, and about 22ft. frontage in the best position of Union-street, Plymouth. Opens right to the pavement. A few doors from Andrew's Picture Palace. Ted Weeks, King's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, Sideshows; large shop (admission free); also two small spaces (no games). Maxim, 50, High-street, Ayr, Scotland.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, Exhibits, Games, Jewellery, Photos., Glass-blowing, Engraving, Palmist, &c.; indoor; touring. Manager, Joy Town, Polytechnic Hall, West Calder.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays.
Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest Novelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, large Variety Latest and Exclusive Designs. Slot Machines, new and second-hand.

Minerva Co.,
3, Gloucester-st.,
Southampton-row,
London, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Punch Ball (Mills); good condition; working order; £4 10s. Hannaford, 57, New King's-road, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, Excellent Cycle Roundabout.

Wilkie, New Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Persian Male Camel; ten years old, quite docile, and thoroughly trained; can be seen nightly at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds. Apply, Glenville and Osmond, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, to Buy, Scenic Railway and Joy Wheel, complete, in working order; portable. State lowest price, with full particulars and photograph, to Box 4,235, "The Era."

WANTED, to Let on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors; Exhibitions, Carnivals, &c.

Address, A. Milton, 77, Virginia-st., Southport.

WANTED, Known, Auction Marts, Rifle Range Site, Fair Ground, to Let, New Carrington-street, Nottingham; 130ft. frontage. Apply,

Cooley Estate, 5, Market-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Let, temporarily, Shop, for Auction Sales, main street of Doncaster; rent, £6 per week. Alfred Stubbs, Askern, Doncaster.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for season commencing at Easter, for Side Shows, Freaks, Novelties, and Stalls. Apply early, Wilkie's Carnival, New Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Good Shop in good position Bristol; suitable for novelty or freaks. Apply, Paskin, 11, Castle-street, Bristol. Can start at once.

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The Magistrates and Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Offer.

City Chambers,
Edinburgh,
Jan. 17, 1913.

BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND.

The Entertainment Committee of the Gravesend Town Council
INVITE OFFERS
from
CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS,
etc.,
for the Tenancy of the Concert Stage and Enclosure on the Promenade, Gravesend, during the Summer Season of 1913.

In addition to the Stage the Committee provide chairs and the tenant will have the exclusive right of giving Entertainments (except Band Performances) on the said Promenade.

Further particulars can be obtained at my Office, where Tenders must be delivered before 10.0 a.m. on Feb. 10.

The Person whose Tender is accepted will be required to enter into an Agreement prepared by me and will be required to find sureties or give security for the sum of £30.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept any Tender.

H. H. BROWN,
Town Clerk.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTHPORT.

NEW FAIRGROUND.

LETTING OF STALLS, RESTAURANTS, ETC.

The Parks, Foreshore and Cemeteries Committee of the Corporation of Southport
INVITE TENDERS
for the Tenancies of the Stalls, Restaurants, Entertainment Rooms, etc., on the New Fairground, adjacent to the New Marine Gardens.

Plans may be seen and Forms of Tender obtained at the Borough Surveyor's Office, Town Hall, Southport.

Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Tender for Stalls, etc.," must be delivered at the Borough Surveyor's Office, not later than 10 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 10, 1913.

(Signed) J. ERNEST JARRATT,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,
Southport.
Jan. 20, 1913.

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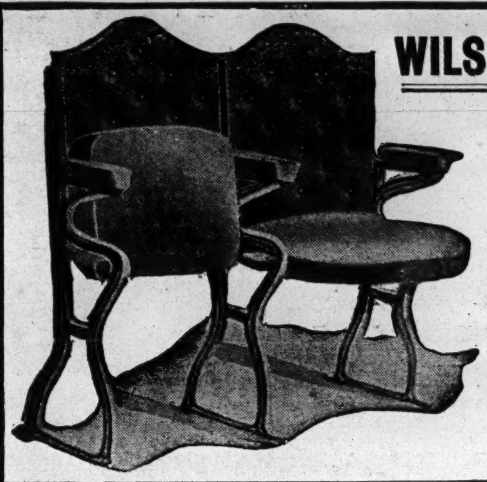

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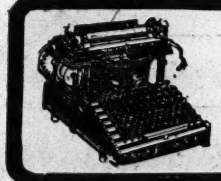

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AVOLOS, THE. Sailed Jan. 23 for South America. Coms. to Sherek, 17, Lisle-street, London.

BELMONT, GEO. E. And 'twas he, at the Sebright, 1885, who started the craze in London of the "Twice nightly"! Address, Marquis of Granby, Cambridge-circus, W.C.

BENTLEYS, MUSICAL. This, Adelaide Pal., Benwell, Newcastle. Next, Picturedrome, Bradford. First vacancy, Aug. 4.

BENTLEY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 163, Brixton-rd., S.W. Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London." 'Phone, 1308 and 1309 Brixton.

BODIE, MRS. WALFORD. Resting at her beautiful Highland home. The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

BORELLI, SIGNOR (late of Signor and Mme. Borelli). Resting in Italy. Address, Via Sapri, No. 9, Spezia, Italy.

BRAMHAM, JOHN. Belle Vue Hotel, Whitegate-drive, Blackpool. Late of Bradford.

BRENTON SISTERS. Jan. 27, Pitt's Palace, Abersychan. Business Agent, Edgar Stebbings, Manchester.

BROOKS, GEORGE H. Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BU-VAL, the Happy Dutchman. Jan. 20, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon. Thanks Smythson's Agency, also Fred Reynolds, for contracts. Vac. Jan. 27.

CHARD'S DOGS. At liberty. 48, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

CLARK, MASTER HARRY. Light Comedian and Dancer. 'Phone, 2207 Brixton. Agent, Worland S. Wheeler.

CLEVELAND, STUART. "A Policeman and a Man." Palace, Burnley.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Entertainer, on Tour. 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CONROY, OLIVER. A Natural Comedian. One of the real successes of the pantomime. This, Theatre, St. Helens. Vacant April 14, 21, May 5, 12.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Artistes always Wanted. State dates, lowest, &c. 62, Parsonage-rd., Withington, Manchester. Tel., 193 Didsbury. Wires, "Graubeste, Withington, Lancs."

The Only Policeman Ventriloquist.
DANIELS, CONSTABLE, I.X.L., in his New and Original Scena, "THE POLICEMAN AND THE OFFICE BOY." Scene, Solicitor's Office. Coms., c/o "The Era."

DANIELS, THE TWO. Nigger Minstrels, Stilts, Donkey, Shovels, Bones, Banjo, Clogs, Flips, Pumps, Big Boots. Vacant Feb. Queen's, Fleetwood.

DANIELS' VARIETY AGENCY, London and Paris. Appointments only. 5, Gresham-rd., Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 1264 Brixton.

DARNLEY'S AGENCY. Telegrams, "Darnleyism, London." 'Phone, 1784 Brixton. General Manager, Fred Bronte, 38, Stockwell Park-road, Clapham.

D'AUBYN, MINNIE. A pronounced success. Re-engaged for next season. See back page.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE. Jan. 27, New Hippodrome, Featherstone, Yorks. With own vaudeville entertainment. Vacant, Feb. 10, Feb. 17.

DE KOLZAS, FOUR MYSTIC. Great Success, Tivoli, Aberdeen, with their Big Illusory Show. Monday, Emp. T., Larkhall, Scotland.

DEVON, LILLIAN. Character Comedienne and Dancer. This, Birkenhead. Next, Preston. Vacant March 24, on.

"DOBSON'S DAY OFF." Com. Sketch. Vac. Feb. 3 and 10. Maude Elliston. This, Pav., Liverpool. Next, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Comedians. Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's "Dick Whittington." Jan. 27, County T., Reading.

DRUMMER GIRLS (SIX). Usual success, Q. Park, Manchester. Jan. 27, Junction Th., Manchester.

ELECTRA, MLLE. LA BELLE. Dr. Bodie's Captivating Electro Hypnotic Medium. Unprecedented success. T.R., Coatbridge.

ELLIOTT SAVONAS, THE.
Musical Marvels.
Jan. 27, Empire, Sheffield.

FLORADORAS.
Original. Screaming Musical Comedy. Starring with success this week, Granville, Walham Green. Vacant, Jan. 27.

GERALD, VIOLET. The Ideal Boy.
Concludes, with success, Hippo., Lancaster.
Monday next, Hippodrome, Rochdale.

GREENLEES, THE (5), in Novel Act, "On a Holiday." Big hit and Top of Bill, Hippo., Bo'ness. Next, Gaiety, Clydebank.

HALES, LILLIE. Comedienne and Expert Dancer. Next, T.R., Darwen, St. Clare's "Aladdin" panto., second season.

HAMEL, ROSA.
Jan. 27, Palace, Blackpool.
Per. add., 4A, Latham-terr., Bedford Park, W.

HART, DAVID. Variety Agent.
Change of address, 18, Charing Cross-rd., W.C.
'Phone, 5383 Gerrard. Tel., "Divadart, London."

HART, SAMUEL, Variety Agent, 24, Endymion-road, Brixton Hill. 'Phone, 116 Brixton. Tel. address, "Sammelst, London."

HENDERSON, FRANCES and GLADYS. No immediate vacancies.
Jan. 27, Prince's T., Preston.

HERIOT TRIO.
Jan. 27,
Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

HIGHAM, FRED, Variety Agent, 5, Durand-gdns., Clapham-rd., S.W. Immediate Engagements. Star Turns. 'Phone, 39 Brixton.

HILL, ROWLAND. "Ye Dame."
Pantomime,
Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

HULA, SISTERS. This week, Empire, Southend. Next, Hippodrome, Birkenhead. Thank Messrs. A. Beale, Mawes and Clarance for contracts.

HYMACK, MR.
Fulfilling engagement in South Africa with Messrs. Hyman, Ltd.

JONES, MARIE, the Lady Proteus, in "Wanted, the Co-respondent," stands alone.
Jan. 27, Vint's Palace, Llanelly, S. Wales.

KENYON, HARRY.
Vaudeville and Dramatic Agent (17 years Manager, Grand, Bolton), 11, Park-st., Bolton. Tel. add., "Renmus, Bolton." Nat. Tel., 629 Bolton.

KINNARD and Dog, in Novel Act.
LES LURAINES, Charming Musical Act.
Pav., Mossley, Lancs. Next, King's Hall, Chopwell, Durham.

LAYTON and DOUGLAS. Quick-change Character Instrumentalists. This, Royal Pav., Rawtenstall. Next, Emp., Haslingden.

LITTLE'S, FRED J., Variety Agency, 4, Arthur-st., New Oxford-st., London, W.C.
Tel. add., "Wontiod, London." 'Phone, 1626 Ger.

LUND'S VARIETY AGENCY,
197, Edge-lane, Liverpool.
Always Vacancies for First-class Acts.

MAURITUS, THEO. Handcuff King.
Victoria, Chesterfield.
Next, Pav., Grange Villa, Durham. See wants.

MAYNARD, TOM.
The Dotty One. The acknowledged enormous success as Abanazar in "Aladdin." Jan. 27, Perth.

MAYNE, ERNIE (Simply).
"It."
Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

McASKELL, Comedy Conjurer.
Monday, Pavilion, Galashiels.
Booked through Fred Collins, of Glasgow.

MILLARD, GEORGE. Comedian.
Now playing the Captain in Joe Collins' "Sinbad" Panto. Jan. 27, Palace, Derby.

MILSTED & BELL TRIO.
"Three Sharps in a Flat."
Jan. 27, Hippodrome, Boscombe.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED.
Ten Sousas Arabs, T.R., Blyth.
P.A., 8, A. B. Row, Birmingham.

MORRIS, J. C. The Droll Comedian.
Always clean. New numbers. Proved successes. Conclude panto., Jan. 27, Alhambra, Openshaw. Vacant, Feb. 3, 10.

MORRIS, MAMIE.
Success, Public Hall, Worcester.
Monday, Hippo., Llanbradach, South Wales.

NEWMAN and KNIGHT. Unique Act, "A Juggler at Home." Theatre, Bellshill.
P.A., Homestead, New Malden. 'Phone, 48 Malden.

NIBLO'S TALKING BIRDS.
Headliner, Loew Circuit.
New York City.

NORWAY, NELLIE. Queen of the Silver Bells. Tivoli, re-engaged next week. Agents kindly note. Address, Hazeldene, Ealing.

PACEY, TOM,
Agent, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.
Tele., "Pacey's, London." 'Phone, 7173 Gerrard.

PALMERS, THE FIVE MUSICAL.
Monday, Picture Palace, Winchester. Thanks Mr. Fred Redfern, Willenhall, for kindness.

PERMANE, CAPTAIN. Real Live Troupe of Teddy Bears. Teddy Bears. Vac. Feb. 3, 24. Coliseum, Oldham.

RAYMOND, THE,
ANIMATED PICTURE CO.,
10 and 12, Garrick-street, London, W.C.

REEVES' VARIETY AGENCY,
Heathfield, 331, Brixton-road, S.W.
Tele., "Formerley, London." 'Phone, 1066 Brixton.

RENSHAW, NANCY.
Laughing Negress and Bone Soloist.
Jan. 27, The Gem, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

RIVERS, PAULINE, Ballet Producer.
12 Little Sunshines, including LITTLE EMMIE. Jan. 27, Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

ROBSON, DOLLY.
Dr. Bodie's Protégée. Gigantic success.
Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

ROHDE and ROCHE. The Chameleon, the Artist, and IT. Jan. 27, E., Cambridge. See advt., page 31, "Performer."

ROZEL.
Resting by doctor's orders.
12, George's-road, Liverpool.

RYLAND, CLIFF.
The Original Rag-time Stand Still Dancer.
Time all filled. Vacant Feb. 3.

SCOREYS, THE.
Hotel De La Musique.
Panto. Tour.

SILVO, MUSICAL.
Unapproached and unapproachable.—Vide Press. Jan. 27, P., Newark.

SMYTHSON COMEDY CO.
Vacant Feb. 10 and 17 (Midlands).
Next, Jan. 27, Empire, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

STEBBINGS, EDGAR, Variety Agent,
28, Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester.
Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone, 9261 Central.

ST. JOHN, BROS. Music, Humour, Dancing. Sail S. Africa March 15. Vacant July 7, 14, 21, and Panto. Hippo., St. Helens.

STOCKWELL, WALTER. Comedian with the voice that can be heard in any part of the Hall. Monday, London.

SYLVESTER'S FETE and VARIETY AGENCY. Estab. 1878. Licensed by L.C.C.
271, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
'Phone, 2064 Brixton.

TALBOT and CLARE.
"An Eastern Absurdity."
Monday, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL.
This, Palace, Nelson. Next, Hippo., Keighley.
Coms., Harry Leaton.

TERRY, SISTERS (Bella and Minnie).
Big hit in Chas. Elderton's panto., "Aladdin." Jan. 27, T.R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.

THORNE, ROSALINE. Latest Illustrated Song or Song Scena, Florence Nightingale. P.A., 32, North-side, Clapham Common, S.W.

TUDORA'S (EDITH) PONIES.
Huge success everywhere. Liberty Jan. 27, Feb., on. 30, Bath-lane-terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TYMES, THE. The Song Scena, "The Enchanted Clock" (3,446). On tour with De Lacy and Tymes's panto. Jan. 27, Hippo., Hemsworth, Yorks.

VALDO BROS., THE, in their Acrobatic Absurdity, "The Eccentric Motor Bus-Men." Per. add., 48, Rudloe-rd., Balham, London.

VINCENT.
Acrobatic Table Expert.
Jan. 27, Stone's Palace, Pontycymmer.

WELDA and WYNNE (Bert and Dorothy). Jan. 27, Workmen's Hall, Penrhiwceiber. Vacant Feb. 3, S. Wales.

WHEELER'S (late Beecham and Wheeler) Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency, 12, Henrietta-street, W.C. Tel., 1280 Ger.

WILDER BROTHERS,
Pyrotechnic Artistes, Gala and Fête Agents.
29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser.
Jan. 27, HIPPODROME BELLSHILL, N.B.
At liberty, Feb. 3.
At liberty, Feb. 3.
Wire or write above, or
Shaw's Agency, 18, Adam-street, Strand, London.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. Perm., 30, Rue d'Orsel, Paris. Jan. 27, Hippo., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Vac. March 17, 31, May 5, on. Share or certainty if required with Own Company.

YOUNG, TED. Enormous success as Dame Crusoe, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Next week, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

ZENITH and WHYTE.
"The Jelly Wobble."

APPLICATIONS for POSITIONS on the BACK PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the Publisher.

RE-ADDRESSING.

Artistes using "The Era" Office as their permanent address can have their letters re-addressed immediately on their arrival by giving information to the Manager, "The Era" Letter Department.

M.B.A.R.A.

and

VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND,
18, CHARING CROSS-ROAD, W.C.

NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members: Costello and Freeman, The Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson, Montes and Welma, Ryan and Hall, Gwennie Morgan, Wincklers, and Louis Kerno. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

METAL TABLETS

OF

"THE ERA"

can be obtained by application to

THE PUBLISHER,

"The Era" Office,

5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

TOM JACK,
The Ice King.

TOM JACK, the Ice King.

Feb. 1, VARIETY THEATRE, VIENNA.

NOTICE.—I have placed my business in the hands of ARTHUR DAY and LIDDY, 44, Cranbourn-street, London. No one else have authority to offer my services, except Mr. George Harrington, who will sign all contracts on my behalf during my absence.

(Signed) TOM JACK.

Sole Agents—
ARTHUR DAY & LIDDY,
44, Cranbourn-street, London.

Fully Booked every week for 3 years by WILL DALTON.

Upon OLD contracts I play my OLD show. FROM NOW ON I AM ONLY SIGNING FOR MY NEW ACT, **"The New Recruit"**—A new style and an original novelty. Big cloth, stage effects, &c.

JOSEPHINE LANGLEY,

The New Lancashire Lady Ventriloquist.

Several Tours Broadhead, V.T. Controlling Coy., Stoll, Coliseum, London, and for every independent Hall away from the Tours. Fully Booked from Jan. 1, 1912, till Dec. 7, 1914. All contracts by my Sole Agent:

WILL DALTON.

"Yorkshire Post," Dec. 31, 1912.
"MISS JOSEPHINE LANGLEY.

"At the risk of being considered ungallant I must express the opinion that the average lady ventriloquist is not very convincing, the difference in the voices being so slight. The best I have yet heard to overcome this defect is Miss Josephine Langley, who has been appearing at the Leeds City Varieties this week. Her 'boy's' voice is full and deep as the youth of fifteen whose voice is breaking, and her other voices are quite distinct in pitch and intonation. It is altogether a clever performance. She learned the art by mimicking her brother, who was a successful ventriloquist, now retired from the stage, and has been at it since twelve years of age, though she has only been two years on the halls."

W.D.

Jack Edge

THE NEW COMEDIAN

'Round t' Raz-or Caught'

WILL DALTON AGENT

CENTRAL HALL
SHEFFIELD.

I STILL LEAD. FOLLOW WHO CAN.

STILL ANOTHER GREAT

TRIUMPH

For the GREAT and ONLY

DR. WALFORD BODIE

THE BRITISH BARNUM

ALL RECORDS

SMASHED

AT THE

GREAT KINNAIRD HALL, DUNDEE.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, The Laird of Macduff.

Patronised by the élite of the City. Over

32,000

people paid for admission in the **12** once-nightly performances and six special Matinées, the grand total of the gross takings being

£1,202 . 16 . 6

beating his record two weeks at the Palace, Aberdeen, by £200, his gross takings there being **£1,013** for the two weeks, smashing records all along the line.

Last week breaking all records at the Empire, Cowdenbeath. Opened on Monday night to a house packed from floor to ceiling, standing room at a premium—a record week assured. Mr. Renman says: "No one but Dr. Bodie could do it—he stands alone, and is undoubtedly the greatest draw in the country!"

His new and sensational up-to-date Big Acts the wonder of the world. Nothing like them ever seen on this great globe. Audiences spellbound and struck with awe and wonder at the daring and thrilling performances.

Truly a mighty programme, fit to grace the largest and best Theatres or Music Halls in the land.

READ! READ!! READ!!!

DR. BODIE'S SECOND WEEK AT THE KINNAIRD HALL. A THRILLING PERFORMANCE.

"Darkness prevails; all is silent. Suddenly bright, blinding flashes break out from the side of a strong copper cage, revealing the ghost-like crouching figure of a man imprisoned within its wiry walls. It is Dr. Bodie, the famous entertainer, performing his unparalleled feat in the 'Cage of Death.' It is the latest item of his high-class programme at the Kinnaird Hall this week. The superhuman effort was last night rewarded with loud applause when the performer was led from the cage in an exhausted condition. Dr. Bodie maintains his high reputation with a splendidly-varied programme, submitted by himself and a band of clever assistants. There is a tinge of daring in everything he carries out, while the other performances are 'bright and breezy.' Albert Edward Bodie is a brilliant society illusionist. He made the assembly gasp with his wonderful and mysterious sleight-of-hand work. His display is an immense success. Dolly Robson is a most sympathetic singer. She renders 'Heroes of the Titanic' with great power, yet the pathetic element is intelligently treated. 'Stave' is indeed a typical South Sea Islander, and a smart, all-round musician. Ernest, a mere boy, is possessed of splendid abilities as a violinist. Derment is a most capable comedian, while Miss Black is a capital piper. La Belle Electra, the Doctor's famous medium, Wee Mona Burns, Mlle. Lenton, and Miss De Lara . . . "—Vide *Dundee Telegraph*, Jan. 7, 1913.

RECORD HOUSES WITH DR. WALFORD BODIE AT THE EMPIRE.

"Dr. Walford Bodie, the well-known hypnotist, bloodless surgeon, and entertainer, opened to a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday night at the Empire Theatre, Cowdenbeath. Mr. Penman has brought many novelties, but we doubt if he has ever had in the Empire a more sensational and welcome 'star.' The whole entertainment submitted by Dr. Bodie and his outstanding company is truly clever. The Highland Laird of Macduff, who opened his performance with a splendid ventriloquial entertainment, entitled 'The Laird's Highland Party,' was cheered to the echo, being recalled several times. Dr. Bodie has wonderful command over his voice, and the many varied and different accents introduced to his life-sized figures was truly a marvellous performance, in which he has proved himself a past master. There were comedy and pathos introduced, his singing being an outstanding feature of his wonderful ventriloquial powers. In the second part of the entertainment the doctor had a rousing reception, assisted by his beautiful and graceful medium and assistant, Mlle. La Belle Electra. His death chair experiment and other startling sensations fairly held the audience spellbound, and struck them with awe and wonder. The doctor's statement that he would give more fun in half an hour than three pantomimes rolled into one was fully justified, the walls of the huge building resounding again and again with laughter and cheers. The artistes who supported the doctor are second to none in the vaudeville world."—Vide *West Fife Echo*, Jan. 15, 1913.

VACANT—March 17; April 14, 28; May 12, 26; June 2, 9, 16 and 23.
Must be large Theatre, Hall or Hippodrome, share or certainty. Sharing terms preferred.
All letters address to Sole Director and Proprietor—
ALBERT EDWARD BODIE, This, T.R., Coatbridge; next, T.R., Paisley.

Moss' Empires Ltd

Managing Director - - - Mr. FRANK ALLEN.

HEAD OFFICES:—

CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, W.C.

Telephone: 1050 & 1051 GERRARD. *[INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.]* Telegrams: "TWIGSOME, LONDON."

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"Hullo, Rag-time!" Doring's Pigeons, The Wille Bros., Hand & Lorenzi, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Andrew McManus, Green & Wood, Weston & Lynch, Bioscope, Gerald Griffin & Co., The Real Rag-timers, Walter Lambert, Isa Wise, Herbert La Martine.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Ed. E. Ford, Lee & Kingston, Bioscope, Alexandre & Bertie, Vasco, Rose Cambry, Tom E. Dean, McKinnon's Meisters, Miss Zona Vevey, Four Ascots.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Pantomime production "Aladdin."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mysterious Mysticus, Fred Wildon, Daisy Sloan, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Louis H. J. Seymour, Millie Payne, Campbell & Barber, Bioscope, Marie Goodwin, Gene Greene, "Everybody," Les Marbas, Wilf Burnand, Jack Thomas.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Shirley & Ransome, La Belle Alva, Bert Weston, Friend & Downing, Bella & Bijou, Marie Kay, J. W. Rowley, Vernon Troupe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Williams & Parker, Leslie Harris, Stein-Esthor Troupe, Bioscope, Roya & Rejan, Carlos Menard, Donal McDougal, Six Bros. Luck.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Field & Smart, Nell & Fred, Pictures.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Myra Boyce, King & Kingsley, Pictures.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Will H. Fox, Haydee's Marionettes, Donaldson Bros., Edith Fink, George Lashwood, Williams & Siegal, Mlle. Golda, Nora Emerald, Bioscope, Walter Bellonini.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Millie Doris, Billy Matchett, Henry Helme, Torcat's Roosters, Four Rays, The Astis, Smythe & Hartman, Arthur Roberts & Co., Bioscope.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Messrs. Day & Lauri's Pantomime "Dick Whittington."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for;—

Pantomime Production "Mother Hubbard."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Little Lily Shaw, Bellclair Bros., Bioscope, Bros. Curran, W. T. Ellwanger & Co., Wilkie Bard, Alf. Tack, Archie Naish, Boomley & Fontein.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

J. D. Hunter & Co., Heeley & Crawford, Olive Melba, Pictures.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Solo, Dusty Rhodes, J. H. Scotland, Gertie Gitana, O'Brien Bros., John & Mae Burke, "The Lodgers," Bioscope, Amos Howard.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Woodward's Seals, Veronica Brady, Mark Sheridan, Hal Russ, Robins & Collier, France & Stewart, The Aerial Smiths, Doris Duquesne, Rich Taylor, Bioscope.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

John Tiller's Pantomime "Forty Thieves."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Harry Burns' Pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

James Stewart, Frank Elliston, Durant Bros., Houdini, Vera Wootton, Real McKays, Alec Kendall, Bioscope, Alf. Chester.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Russell Trio, George Rae, Will Hay, Elliott Savonas, Cooper & Lait, Craggs, Bioscope, The Rawsons, Peter & Potts, Ida Revell.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Edwin Lawrence, Ernie Grossmith, Albert Rees, Bi-Ber-Ti, "The River Girl," Metz & Metz, Sisters Finney, Bioscope, Harry Webber, Thora.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Camp & Critic, Edie King, Mrs. Graeme Goring, Ernest Shand, Hart & Johnson, Wish Wynne, Lane & O'Donnell, Park's Eton Boys, Vittorio & Georgetto, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

L'Incognita, La Pia, Mabel Sinclair, Whit Cunliffe, Fred Edwards, Bioscope, Kitty Prince, Dort & Leonard, Adam Tomlinson, Woodward & Page.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Bedford, Thorpe & Coe, Tom Costello, Thornton & Wagner, Frances McNulty, Mike S. Whallen, La Belle Frasquita, Chas. Austin, Bioscope, Three Cape Girls.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Harry Burns' Pantomime "The Forty Thieves."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Huley & Bent, Leslie Bros., James Dixon, Tom Parker.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Haytors, Sammy Shields, The Roland Bros., Harry Blake, Ena Dayne, Bioscope, The Hanlon Bros., The Two Boyds.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Rallis Wilson Trio, Pictures, Linn & Darius, Maisie Thorne, Bert Lloyd, Little Dando, Strolling Players, Boston Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Walter Bird & Co., Bioscope, J. J. Mannix, Chass Lewis, Ida Ernest, Emily Millard, Beattie Kent.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for;—

Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Picture Entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George N. Ballanger's Co., "The Round Up."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Wighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

Providing Continuous Engagements for Artistes at the most Important Variety Theatres in the London Area.

General Administrative Offices:

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Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Jan. 27, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.
Maison Décolletée, Two Bobs, George Formby, Four Amaranths, Nellie Wallace, Palermo & Chefalo, Harry Zetter, Constance Mori, Wells & Mayban, May Henderson, Briff, Braff and Broff, The Crisps, Orpheus, Grant and Grant, Bioscope.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.
Marie Lloyd, The Gresham, producing Miss Edith Goodall & Co. in "Red 'Ria," Bransby Williams, Gus Elen, Yorke Stephens and Ruby Miller, Chas. Whittle, Stanley Kirkby's Co., The Joculars, Bert Errol, Nino and Nana, Three Lumars, Elton and Edwin, Ted Waite, Bioscope.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
"Marked Money," "Oh! Molly," Harry Tate & Co., George Formby, The Courtiers, Gus Garrick, Elfie Fay, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Phil Kauffman, The Lacori Family, Wilson Hallett, Charles Hera, Nelson Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Manning, Walter Williams, Prof. Duncan's Dogs, The McGregors, The Lyons Trio, Bioscope.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.
F. Karno's "Mumming Birds," George Formby, Nellie Wallace, Fred Douglas, Two Trilbys, Tony Black, Sados and Assistant, Rosie Rendel, Gordon and Elgin, Sisters Caselli, Five Cliftons, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Geo. Gray & Co., Five Jovers, Belle Davis and Picos, Auber, Mark Leslie, Francis Letty, Chas. Whittle, Aimee Roberts, Rose Hays, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Carney's Wedgwood Classics, G. A. Street & Co., Seven Perezoffs, Belle Davis & Picos, Harvey Boys, Sinclair and Whiteford, Flora Cromer, Mabel and Cliff Diamond, Harry Clifford, Jenny Castelle, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Marie Lloyd, Harry Tate & Co., Chas. Whittle, Nino and Nana, Nelson and Tilly, W. H. Kuming, Verno and Voyce, Ray Wallace, The Crisps, Elsie Kerry, Fred Wilkinson, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
The Jewells, Jock Whiteford, Three Van Dammes, Ada Cerito, Ernie Leno, Verno and Voyce, Mark Leslie, Five Petleys, Edith Trevor, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Leonard, Madge Osmond, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.
Dolly Elsworthy & Co., Ray Wallace, Alec Kennedy, Pyck, Tnoll and Taylor, Bob and Jennie Leonard, Lottie Lennox, Arthur Leslie, Bert Errol, Ethel Stephenson, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
W. Bird's Co., including Ernie Lotinga, Frank Armstrong, The Courtiers, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Barnard's Marionettes, Jack Warman, W. H. Kuming, Jessie Lee, Lottie Lennox, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
John Lawson & Co., Wells and Mayban, Gertrude Lester, Bert Lytton, Miri Dante, Haig and Novel, Bella and Jules Terry, Dean Tribune, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.
Stanley Kirkby's The Joculars, Four Clovelly Girls, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Tom Woottwell, Cissie Sylvester, Lolita, Reg. Wentworth, Ted E. Moss, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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"HER MADCAP MAJESTY."

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Including a coming Star Comedian and 36 Artistes.

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Particulars of this on application. Don't be late.

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MISS OLGA ESME,

in the immense laughing successes

CONFUSION **CONFUSION,** ON THE BEACH
(Seven Artistes.)
First Vacant Date—
FEBRUARY 3.

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(Seven Artistes.)
First Vacant Date—
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CONFUSION **SIR FRANCIS BURNAND'S** ON THE BEACH
Three Act Laughing Success,

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(Twelve Artistes.)
Available once or twice nightly.
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Plays 1¾ to 2¼ hours.

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THE LOSS OF THE

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A New Spirit Seance.
The Floating Table Mystery, &c., &c.
Entirely Original Concerteds.

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Chairman and Treasurer,
MR. HARRY BARNARD.

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J. SPARROW, Secretary.

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Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR JANUARY 27, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Arthur Bourchier and Violet Vanbrugh in "Pearls," Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Washed Up," Alfred Lester in "The Village Fire Brigade," Alexandra Dagmar, Ferry Corwey, Anna Eva Fay, Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson, Chrono-Chrome Bioscope.
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"A Dark Secret," Selection, Doroswami, Little Etty Howard, Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris, Bioscope.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Victoria Monks, Ella Shields, Bert Coote, Ike and Will Scott, Bioscope, Gintaro, Holden's Mannikins, Harry Grey, Olive Armidale, Harlequinaders.
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Percy Honri in "Bohemia," Cornalla and Eddie, Fred. Keeton, King's College Boys, Bi-Bo-Bi, Bioscope, Fred Russell, Victoria Monks.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
H. G. Pelissier and The Follies, "The Window of the Haunted House," Barton and Ashley, Victor Kelly, Lorch Family, Bioscope, Billy French, Barclay Gammon.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Arthur Prince, Christine Roy, Four Vagabonds, Mlle. Marjutti, Herbert Sheath's Co. in "The Third Degree," Little Ganty, Fred Sylvester & Co., Dion Wade, Bioscope, Chanti.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Marie Studholme & Co. in "Her Ladyship," The Whittakers, Chris Van Bern, Iva Voyce, Bioscope, Andos Troupe, Hayman and Franklin,
Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Alice Crawford & Co. in "The Little Devil Chooses," The Four Elles, Gwennie Llewellyn, C. J. Johnson, The Great Weiland, Smite and Smote, Bioscope, Marie Novello, "Concealed Bed."

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
"Aladdin," Bioscope.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Fred Kitchen in "Potts in Port," John Weil, Bioscope, George Newburn, Ellis Barrieton, Kate and Tom Major, Unthan, Adelmann Family.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Marcus and Gartelle, The Deleyines, Coram, Myfanwy Newell, Bioscope, Ludwig Amann, Zenga Troupe.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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All Communications, Bill Matter, Lithos, Plots, &c., to Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address: "Broadhead, Manchester."
National Telephone: 7359 & 7360 Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 27, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre.—Lind and Lind, Les Raymonds, Pictures. **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY—Hippodrome.— Wilson and Crooks's Sketch Company, Mira Jensen, Pictures, Jenny Alexander, Talbot and Pearce. **2.**

ECCLES—Crown Theatre. — Four Heidelbergs, Harpe and Harper, Pictures, **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—Harry Champion, Guy Rider, Leslie Bell and Co., Moran and Tingley, Daisie Morell, Correze and Keith, Romanys, Horace White and Company as booked. **2.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—Jordan and Harvey, Pictures, Lavail and Bodine, Maude Elliston and Co., Vedras, Darnell, Louis Tracey and Company as booked. **2.**

MANCHESTER-Junction Theatre. H. A. Jordison's Pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—Watson and Usher's Company in "The Face at the Window." **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—Billy Williams, Penman and Miller, Archie O'Neil, Pictures, Eight Lancashire Lads, Two Britons, Bert Earle, Max Erard's "Silver Wedding" Company, Zella Vondi and Company. **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—Gar Kiddie's Pantomime, "Bo-Peep." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Andie Caine's Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Pictures, Dancing, &c.

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Jennie Johns, Will Van Allen, Bradshaw & Brooks, Three Safes, Jean Alexandre, Frank Melvin, Pictures, F. V. St. Clair, Gleesons, and Houlihan. **11.** Matinee, Monday, **2.30.**

PRESTON—New King's Palace.—Will open shortly.

SALFORD—Hippodrome.—Winifred Maude's Company in "The Mormon and the Maid." **2.** Matinée, Tuesday, **2.30.**

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
TIVOLI,
EUSTON.
Latest success, "My Actor Man."
By Clifford Harris and James Tate.
Agent, Ernest Edelsten.

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Queen of Domestic Comedy.
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Address, Milton Hall, Loughborough-park, Brixton, S.W.

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NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND MANAGERS.
I hereby caution all artistes and managers that I do not permit to be given any imitations of my songs, words, or business. Anyone performing or singing same will be prosecuted for infringing the copyrights I hold.
(Signed) VESTA VICTORIA.

The Tip-top Type of an English Girl.
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Huge success, "Emmie's Xmas Tree," "Stars in the sky," &c.
Continued success on tour. Address all letters, Permanent address, Hippo., Wisbech.

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The Dapper Dandy Boy.
Jan. 20, Euston (sharing bottom of Bill) and South London (middle of Bill).
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The World's Greatest Chorus Singer.
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Title-rôle, "Jack Horner,"
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Thanks for numerous offers. Re-engaged, 1913-14, Principal Boy, Milton Bode and J. F. Graham.
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The only Lady Dancing Act on the Wire.
Just returned, after a most successful tour of South Africa.
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The Incomparable Character Comedy Artiste.
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Future bookings include: Moss, Stoll, and McNaughten Tours, Syndicate, and L.T.V. Halls, and principal independent halls. All booked by Mr. H. Thurston. Letters, next week, EMPIRE, CARDIFF. Feb. 3, Empire, Swansea.

MISS BERTIE ADAMS,
as JUNE in "Autumn Manœuvres."
Next week, HULL.
Coms., Blackmore's Agency.

MISS IRENE DILLON,
in "Twinkle Little Star,"
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The daintiest and most vivacious Principal Girl seen in Birmingham Pantomime.
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Vacant Feb. 3,
Musical Comedy or Vaudeville.

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Will Collins, Business Manager.

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The Woman who is Never Herself.
Jan. 27, HIPPODROME, NEWCASTLE.

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Comedy Sketch Company,
"Our Mary Jane," "The Wrong Girl."
Feb. 3, 10, 17 vac. Sailing for S. Africa March 1.
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New Song-Scena, "The Half-Way House."
ON TOUR.
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Enormous Success as GOODY TWO SHOES.
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Enormous Success,
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MAUDIE FRANCIS
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GOODY TWO SHOES.
Enormous Success.
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Principal Boy (Abdallah).
"Glasgow Times" says: Dashing and clever Miss Minnie D'Aubyn as Captain of the Forty was a decided success.
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Vacant Feb. 10, 17.
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An ovation at every performance.
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The World-famous Comedy.
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Artistes booked for England, Continent, Africa, Australia, and America.
Representatives all over the world.

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Lindenan, 99, Tulse-hill, S.W.
Wanted, Good Songs.

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MISS LILLIE LANGTRY
is the life and soul of the pantomime, and is to a large extent responsible for its great success. Long before the curtain was rung down Aladdin was prime favourite.—Vide Press.

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Everybody's Favourite.
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LYCEUM THEATRE, LONDON.
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'Phone, 2115 Brixton.

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